

The Folklife Center Annual Report 2016

Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY 12801

Todd DeGarmo, Founding Director of The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library

Erica Wolfe Burke, Archivist/Librarian

Kevin Rogan, Librarian

6 pages

Grants & Income

1. **New York State Council on the Arts - Folk Arts** - award of \$36,000 (second of 4, multiyear grant) for the folk arts programs developed and presented by The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library, as a regional folk art program.
2. **Friends of Crandall Public Library** - award of \$9,500 for 2016 *Live! Folklife Concert* (Spring & Fall) and *Summerland Music* series (July-August); award of \$10,000 towards 2017 *Live! Folklife Concerts* (Spring & Fall), *Summerland Music* series (July-Aug), & *Colgate Resolutions* concert (Jan).
3. **Leo Cox Beach Philanthropic Foundation** - award of \$7,000 for the 2017 Folklife Gallery exhibition, *Wings Falls Quilter Guild Celebrates 40 Years of Quilting 1977 to 2017*, and its associated programs.
4. **Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (CVNHP)** - award of \$5,000 for a 2017 Corridor of Commerce Grant towards our Battenkill Inspired project to reformat the stories, art and objects from our exhibition into a digital media version that will be made available to the public via iPad stations strategically placed within public institutions of the Battenkill corridor running through Bennington County, Vermont and southern Washington County, New York.
5. **New York State Folk Arts Digital Initiative (NYFADI)**- award of \$1,000 for software, hard drive purchases, video editing, and/or digitization expenses; and in addition, web/digital media assistance to help us join NYFADI in creating an online portal to materials documented by folklorists around NYS, funded by the New York State Council on the Arts and coordinated by City Lore.
6. **Donations** - \$5,000 from an anonymous donor; \$1,000 from Gary T. Loughrey; \$60 from Susan L. Haselton-Barr; \$50 from the New York Division Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.

Interns, Volunteers, Consultant, New Staff

1. Special thanks to our interns:
 - a. Rachel Wentworth, SUNY Fredonia (English & Spanish major).
 - b. Liz Belyea, SUNY New Paltz (History & German major).
 - c. Kaitlyn Vogel, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (Arts Management)
2. Special thanks to our many volunteers, providing 1,061.75 hours of assistance:
Camp Chingacook Alumni, Julia Cutshall-King, Caron Darfler, Lisa Dougherty, Maureen Dye, Jim Gonyea, Josh Henderson, Regina Kennedy, Joan Langan, Robin Lyle, Jacqueline McConnell, Chad Murray, Zoe Niver, Sarah Robert, Pam Reed, Tracy Richmond, Emma Rogan, Dana Stimson, Woman's National Farm & Garden Association.
3. Special thanks to Capital District Library Council cataloging consultant Josh Hauck for adding 250 items to our NY Digital Heritage website: www.nyheritage.org.
4. Welcome to Kevin Rogan, Librarian, who joined The Folklife Center staff in May 2016.

Archives & Special Collections

1. Reading Room: 2,562 patrons using 5,322 items

- a. Open Monday-Friday 10-12, 1-4, Tuesday 5-8; Friends Book Sale Saturdays

2. Collection Management

- a. NYS Vital Record Indexes: updates from NYS Archives & Department of Health.
- b. Folk Music Libraries: ongoing digitization of albums for patron access at iTunes stations.
- c. Crandall Public Library Archives: additions.
- d. Csaplár Silver Bay Collection: ongoing item-level inventory into FileMaker Pro database.
- e. Camp Chingachook Archives: 5-year deposit being processed by CC alumni.
- f. Manuscript & Other Special Collections: new collections processed, inventories and described.
- g. Vertical Files (Glens Falls/Queensbury, Regional, Biographical): filing/preservation copying.
- h. Concerts, storytelling, etc videotaped, edited, stored, and uploaded to YouTube.

3. New Collections

- a. Holden Reference Book Collection: 470 new titles on Polaris catalog.
- b. Special Titles & Other Publications
 - i. *Berkshire Genealogist* publications donated by Dorothy Joiner & Donna Leonard, Fort Edward.
 - ii. *Leaves Torn Asunder* (novel) by Glenn Pearsall (the canal boat in his story, Erika B. is named after our own Erica Burke!).
 - iii. Meg Stuart Sheet Music Collection.
 - iv. Judge John Austin's library, donated by son Jay Austin; duplicates to area historical societies.
- c. Manuscript Collections
 - i. Sarah Cleveland's folk music collection.
 - ii. Glens Falls Machine Works records donated by Carol Mullen.
 - iii. Wings Falls Quilters Guild archives additions.
 - iv. Blackburn calendar additions.
 - v. Diploma additions.
 - vi. Glens Falls High School 1920 photograph & 2 certificates donated by Chris Lanfear, Rochester, NY
 - vii. World War I scrapbook of Hudson Falls & Fort Edward veterans donated by Dorothy Joiner & Donna Leonard, Fort Edward, NY.
 - viii. James P. King's Vietnam letters home to his family donated by Maury Thompson.
 - ix. Wiawaka Center for Women archives donated by the Board of Directors.
 - x. Joseph Fowler Account Book 1875-1895, donated by Lillian B. Adamson, Lake George.
 - xi. LaPoint family scrapbook, photographs, genealogy, donated by A. Joseph LaPoint.
 - xii. Presbyterian Church of Putnam Minutes of Session, donated by Tim Reed, Gansevoort.
 - xiii. King Lake George Camp Guest Book, donated by Tim Reed, Gansevoort, NY.
 - xiv. Ethel Broomhall Holt scrapbooks, etc., donated by Joseph LaPoint, Hudson Falls, NY.
 - xv. Red Wings Collection, donated by Estelle Simmons.
 - xvi. Open Door - Vietnam Experience program files, donated by Sunny Buchman
 - xvii. Viele Pocket Diaries 1931-44
- d. Folk Art Collections
 - i. Wood-carved sculpture of a bald eagle by Allen Hill donated by Allen & Mae Hill, Moreau, NY.
 - ii. Wood-carved Quebecois bread oven and baker.
- e. Art & Objects Collections
 - i. Charles Evans Hughes Collection: various items donated by Maury Thompson, and otherwise acquired for the exhibition, *Charles Evans Hughes, A Native Son*.
 - ii. Beaded pillow souvenir from Saratoga Springs Indian Camp, purchase at tag sale.
 - iii. Rockwell House, pencil drawing by K. Fitzgerald 1986.

Folklife Gallery

1. **A Transitional Interpretation: American Roots Music by Five Photographers** - an original Folklife Gallery exhibition on display September to December 31, 2015, and held over into January 2016.
 1. Voices: Journal of New York Folklore Fall/Winter 2015 article about exhibition.
2. **The Dream of America: Separation & Sacrifice in the Lives of North Country Latino Immigrants** -an original Folklife Gallery exhibition on display February to August 31, 2015. Guest curated by Lisa Catalfamo, this exhibition of photographs and folk arts takes us from the milking parlors of surrounding counties to the cinderblock homes of Coyula, Guadalajara, Mexico, and back again. This straightforward perspective asks that we consider without bias or stereotype, the work being done, and the lives and sacrifices of the workers. Hard work and separation are underlying themes of these immigrants' lives.
 1. All That is Left Behind, an illustrated talk by Lisa Catalfamo and Betty Getty who visited Coyula, Mexico and the families of immigrants living and working in New York's North Country, Saturday February 26, 71 attendees.
 2. Post-Star article: A Look at American Dream" by Rhonda Triller, Arts/Life, Friday, Feb. 26, 2016.
 3. Hidden in Our Midst, an illustrated talk by Mary Jo Dudley, Saturday, March 12, 21 attendees.
 4. Queensbury 9th graders toured the exhibition, March 17, 106 attendees.
 5. Las Marthas, film shown by our Film Series, Tuesday, March 22, 2:30 & 6:30.
 6. Hey! Jesus was a Migrant Too, an illustrated talk by Dr. Ilze Earner, Hunter College, Saturday, April 9, 2pm, 32 attendees.
 7. Immigrant America: They Steal Our Jobs?, film and discussion with Roy Germano, NY University, Friday, April 15 at Hudson Falls High School, 300 attendees, and Saturday, April 16 at CPL, 33 attendees.
 8. After I Pick the Fruit, film hosted by the Library's Film Series, Tuesday, May 10, 2:30 & 6:30 pm.
 9. Local Panel Discussion, Wednesday, May 11, 7 pm, 40 attendees.
 10. Reception & lunch for participants, Thursday, August 18, 10:30 to 1 pm, 25 attendees.
 11. Voices: Journal of New York Folklore, features cover photo & photo essay of exhibition in its Summer/Fall 2016 issue.
3. **Charles Evans Hughes, A Native Son** -an original Folklife Gallery exhibition on display September 8 to December 31, 2016. Curated by Maury Thompson and Todd DeGarmo, this exhibition celebrates one of the most brilliant public officials of the 20th century: Governor of New York, Secretary of State, Chief Justice of the United States. It takes a look at the local connections of the man born in Glens Falls.
 1. Reception on Thursday, September 8, 4 to 7 pm with estimated 300 attendees.
 2. Tour by Sagamore Great Camp Road Scholars of FC & exhibit, October 4, 25 attendees.
 3. The Revolt, re-creation of 1916 play performed in Glens Falls, October 12, 80 attendees
 4. Charles Evans Hughes Day at the Hyde, October 15, 137 attendees.
 5. Tour by Sagamore Great Camp Road Scholars of FC & exhibit, October 18, 22 attendees.
 6. Charles Evans Hughes as Secretary of State, by Chris Whann, October 19, 20 attendees.
 7. Publicity with a number of newspaper features, stories and television broadcasts.

Cultural Programs (music, storytelling, workshops, presentations)

1. **Winter Bluegrass Jam** -a musical series for pickers and listeners alike, begun December 2015, hosted by Alan Epstein, sponsored by the Folklife Center during the winter months at first on the first Thursdays(January, February 2016), and then on the third Thursdays (November, December 2016):
 - a. January 7, with an attendance of 27 musicians + 50 listeners.
 - b. February 4, with an attendance of 25 musicians + 60 listeners.
 - c. November 17, with an attendance of 24 musicians + 42 listeners.
 - d. December 15, with an attendance of 11 musicians + 30 listeners (on a wintery evening).

2. **Family History One-to-One** - 3rd Wednesday of the month drop-in for personalized help offered by volunteer genealogist Lisa Dougherty in the Folklife Center's research room 10 to noon:
 - a. February 17, 9 attendees
 - b. March 16 - 11 attendees
 - c. April 20 - 11 attendees
 - d. May 18 - 9 attendees
 - e. June 15 - 8 attendees
 - f. July 20 - 4 attendees
 - g. August 17 - 7 attendees
 - h. September 21 - 2 attendees
 - i. October 19 - 3 attendees
 - j. November 16 - 1 attendee
 - k. December 21 - 2 attendees

3. **Live! Folklife Concert Series**, the Spring featured 9 live concerts, and the Fall 6 concerts, free to the public, thanks to funding from the Friends of Crandall Public Library (who also distribute our publicity bookmarks at their book sales) and the New York State Council on the Arts. All are on Thursdays 7 to 9 pm (doors open 6:30) in the Community Room with portable stage & sound system, digital video recorded for the archives with a song or 2 posted to our YouTube channel, *The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library*:
 - a. March 10 - Mike & Ruthy Band - 165 attendees.
 - b. March 17 - Cold Chocolate - 150 attendees.
 - c. March 26 - Tim O'Shea, Regina Delaney, & Friends - 150 attendees.
 - d. April 7 - The Lazy Suns - 150 attendees.
 - e. April 14 - Ozere - 150 attendees.
 - f. April 21 - Olivia Quillio - 105 attendees.
 - g. May 5 - Marc Berger- 136 attendees.
 - h. May 12 - Ken & Brad Kolodner - 140 attendees.
 - i. May 19 - David Burgess - 91 attendees.
 - j. September 8 - Maggie - 140 attendees.
 - k. September 15 - Bombadils - 136 attendees.
 - l. September 22 - Barrule - 145 attendees.
 - m. October 6 - Calan - 150 attendees.
 - n. October 13 - Cricket Blue - 100 attendees.
 - o. October 20 - Sam Moss - 80 attendees.

4. **Heritage Hunters History Faire**: Erica Wolfe Burke presentation, April 30, Schuylerville, 20 attendees.

5. **Association of Public Historians of New York State**: Region 5 meeting co-hosted by The Folklife Center, featuring a tour of the exhibition, The Dream of America and our Special Collections, Saturday May 14, 9:30 to 2 pm, 31 attendees.

6. **Adirondack Women**, *Woodblock Portraits by Cheryl Mirer*, exhibition loan to the Lake George Historical Society, May to December 2016.
7. **Summertime Music Society** the fifth year of a 3-part indoor chamber music series presented free to the public on Thursdays at 7 pm (doors open 6:30), curated by Summerland Music Society's Carol Minor and Christopher Bush, and presented in partnership with the Folklife Center, and funded in part by Friends of Crandall Public Library:
 - a. July 14: *Steamboat Bill, Jr.* (Cary Brown, piano)- silent film starring comedian Buster Keaton with improvised piano accompaniment - 50 attendees.
 - b. July 15: *Tuney Loons* (Cary Brown, piano) vintage cartoons by Paul Terry with live piano accompaniment - 80 attendees.
 - c. July 28: *Ukraine's Rising Stars*, featuring musicians from the Sonyachne Kolo Music Festival, Kharkov, Ukraine (with a 3 camera recording session)- 106 attendees.
 - d. August 11: *Felix and Fanny: The Mendelssohns* (Anastasia Robinson, soprano; Charlie Powers, cello; Sergiy Dvornichenko, clarinet; Christopher Bush, basset horn; Carol Minor, piano; Francesca Tortorello, piano) - 110 attendees.
8. **Academy of Life Long Learning**: Erica Wolfe Burke presented her research on the Champlain Canal and its workers on September 13 & 20, Saratoga Springs, 20 + 20 attendees.
9. **Meet the Author**: presentation and book signing by Bob Bayle with *An Adirondack Portfolio 1902-1935; The Hiking Stories and Photographs of Francis Bayle*, November 3, 7 pm, 61 attendees.
10. **TLC's Long Lost Family**: The Folklife Center was the site for a segment shoot in this TV documentary series, November 4.
11. **Do Tell: Learning to Perform Personal Stories**: a free 4- part workshop series led by storytellers/ educators Margaret French and Betty Cassidy. Participants met Mondays (November 14, 21, 28, December 5) 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Participants agree to attend all 4 sessions, perform their own story at the final session, receive a recording of the performed stories, and see the stories added to the Folklife Center's YouTube page. 23 signups/ 13 stories recorded.
12. **Understanding Archives: An Introduction to Archival Basics** a free workshop presented by DHSPNY (Documentary Heritage & Preservation Services for New York) and co-hosted by the Folklife Center, with tours of the Folklife Center, Thursday, November 17, 9:30 to 3:30, 50 attendees.
13. **A Christmas Carol**, one-man performance by master storyteller Jonathan Kruk, hosted by Kevin Rogan, Thursday, December 1, 7 pm, 90 attendees.
14. **Tours of FC** - as requested: January, family (4); March 30, Indian Lake school (19); May 10, SUNY Adirondack (6); May 20, Granville 3rd graders (78); August 4, Queensbury 3rd graders (20); October 21, BOCES (11); November 30, Living Resources of Saratoga (9); December, SUNY Adirondack (6).
15. **YouTube: The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library** - with Kevin Rogan joining Folklife Center staff this May, we made a renewed effort to create and add digital content to our YouTube page (created back in September 2014) . By the end of 2016 we have a total of 163 videos, with 50 subscribers, and over 20,000 views. All videos are organized into playlists: Live! Folklife Concerts (80); Do Tell: Learning to Perform Personal Stories (48); Portraits: Documentary Shorts (15); Live! Storytelling (8); Folklife Gallery Exhibitions (5); Around the Library (4); Special Collections & Archives (2); Folklife After Hours (1). We also subscribe to 13 organizations with a similar mission of documenting the folklife of their regions.

16. **Path Through History** - The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library is a participant in this tourism promotion through a New York State sponsored website, calendar, and roadside signage (www.paththroughhistory.ny.gov).
17. **New York Heritage Digital Collections** - Crandall Public Library Folklife Center is a contributor to this website (nyheritage.org) with a link to the Digital Public Library of America.
18. **Voices: Journal of New York Folklore**: Todd DeGarmo is the acquisitions editor for this membership magazine published twice a year by the New York Folklore Society (<http://www.nyfolklore.org/pubs/voices.html>).

Professional Training & Participation

1. Todd DeGarmo serves on the Library's Marketing Committee and chairs the Program Committee.
2. Todd DeGarmo was a member of the Charles Evans Hughes Committee for Fall 2016 activities.
3. Todd DeGarmo attended a Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership grant meeting at Lake George Historical Society, May 19.
4. Kevin Rogan attended a New York Digital Heritage/Content DM meeting at the Capital District Library Council, Albany, July 19.
5. Erica Wolfe Burke attended the Heritage Hunters annual meeting, Schuylerville, October 15.
6. Todd DeGarmo staffed the New York Folklore Society's exhibitor booth at the New York Library Association Annual Conference, Saratoga Springs, November 4.
7. Todd DeGarmo and Kevin Rogan meeting with Chris Mule of City Lore regarding our participation in the NYS Folk Arts Digital Initiative to give folk arts a greater visibility and accessibility, November 10.
8. Todd DeGarmo served on the committee to review grants for planning and assessment services of DHSPNY (Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services in New York), Albany, November 16.