

FALL 2020

**THE FOLK ARTS INITIATIVE
AT THE EVERHART MUSEUM**

FEATURING THE FOLK &
TRADITIONAL ARTISTS OF
LACKAWANNA, LUZERNE,
PIKE, SUSQUEHANNA, WAYNE,
AND WYOMING COUNTIES



EVERHART MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY. SCIENCE. ART.
est 1908



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOLK AND TRADITIONAL ARTS

"Bonga" - Gaston Jean-Baptiste
Susquehanna County
photo: Dawn Leikness

WITH FUNDING FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

ABOUT THE FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTS INITIATIVE AT THE EVERHART



Traditional Pysanky by Jim Hollock

The Initiative

As a Folk and Traditional Arts Partner with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA), the Everhart is working to sustain cultural and artistic practices rooted in the histories, traditions, and everyday lives of people in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming counties.

We are working to identify traditional artists in this region, create a curated roster of those artists, assist them in keeping their traditional practices alive, and increase public access to folk arts.



The Process

Through this Initiative, the Everhart is seeking artists and practitioners who qualify as experienced folk & traditional artists. Through this process we will research, document, and present the traditional and folk artists in our region who celebrate and preserve our diverse cultures, valuing time-honored traditions from here and around the world.

This is an open call to our community for applications and recommendations. These will then be panel reviewed and additional fieldwork will be conducted as necessary. Finally, The Everhart will present a vetted roster of regional folk arts practitioners.

STRONGER TOGETHER: MULTIPLE RESOURCES FOR REGIONAL FOLK ARTISTS



Scarf in traditional crackle weave,
but in contemporary color harmonies.
Handwoven by Peg McDade.

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

The mission of the PCA is to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania's communities through the arts, by providing needed organizational and financial resources.

The goals of the Folk and Traditional Arts Partnership are to investigate, document, present, sustain, and promote the folk and traditional art of Pennsylvania in order to celebrate our diverse heritage. We are proud to be a partner in this vital program.

Our Regional Community Partners

Two other PCA programs can work hand in hand with the Folk & Traditional Arts Partnership: PA Partners in the Arts (PPA) and PA Artists in Education (AIE).

The Everhart Folk Art Initiative will work with the regional administrator of these two vital PCA resources for artists, the Northeast Educational Intermediate Unit 19. As partners, we will bring to artists the resources of these and other regional arts organizations and community resources.

WHAT ARE FOLK ARTS AND TRADITIONAL ARTS?

Rooted in Community

Folk and traditional arts are rooted in community traditions, in the collective experiences of people who share a common ethnic heritage, cultural mores, language, religion, occupation, or geographic region.

Passed Down Through Generations

These arts practices can be either artistic or utilitarian (or both) with very specific, traditional techniques that are shared within families, neighborhoods, and communities.

Folk arts traditions are shaped by values and standards of excellence that are passed from generation to generation, most often within family and community, through demonstration, conversation, and practice.

Balancing Tradition with Changing Times

The nature of community is to continue to evolve from the base point of revered traditions. Folk arts, then, also continually grow beyond the limitations of traditional expressions, to encompass emerging circumstances and new world views.

From Diwali Festival of Lights
at The Everhart Museum, 2019



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HOW WILL ARTISTS BE SELECTED FOR THE ROSTER?



Byzantine-Russian Iconography
by Nina Kouznetsov

Panel Review

We will thoroughly consider each applicant with our panel of experienced arts & culture professionals, each of whom recognize the breadth of both folk and traditional art forms. Along with your application, we will also review any videos, interviews, photos, etc. you feel best represent your practice.

Explain Yourself In Your Own Words

Your application gives you the opportunity to describe, in your own words, your art and your own journey within it. This portion of the application is your best tool for helping us truly understand you and the traditional practice or art you perform.

If you are selected to be included on the Folk & Traditional Arts Roster, it will be your own words that are used to represent you and your art, rather than a generic description written by a someone who doesn't know you. Be honest, be thorough, and let your experience, passion and personality shine! We look forward to learning about you and your art form.

Opportunities for Every Applicant

With your permission, we will share your arts info with our PCA (PA Council on the Arts) partners - so that every applicant can be considered our partners' arts resources as well. Partners include the PPA (PA Partners in the Arts) and AIE (Artists In Education).

TIMELINE: FROM APPLICATION TO APPROVAL



APPLICATIONS OPEN

Friday, October 30, 2020

INFORMATION SESSION FOR ARTS APPLICANTS

Tuesday, November 17, 2020
Virtual Session 6:00-7:00 pm

*Online Session. To Register, Please Email:
folkart@everhart-museum.org*

APPLICATIONS DUE

Sunday, November 29, 2020

NOTIFICATIONS SENT

Friday, December 18, 2020

All applicants will be notified by email

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTISTS ROSTER

Friday, January 15, 2021

This project was made possible through the Folk and Traditional Arts Infrastructure Program of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA), a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a federal agency. The PCA Folk and Traditional Arts Partner organization in this region is The Everhart Museum in Scranton, PA.

APPLICATION FOR THE FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTISTS ROSTER



PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT BY SUNDAY, NOV. 29, 2020 (11:59 PM)

Applications and Questions should be emailed to: folkart@everhart-museum.org
Or mailed to: Everhart Museum, Attn: Folk Arts 1901 Mulberry St., Scranton PA 18510
This form is also online at: everhart-museum.org/folkartapplication
Applications must be received or postmarked by the deadline listed above.

Artist Name:

County:

Email:

Phone:

Art Forms/Media Practiced (list all):

Artist Address:

Group Affiliation or Business Name:

Artist Role in this Group or Business:

Group or Business Address:

Web Site (*Personal*):

Web Site (*Business*):

Facebook:

Instagram:

Other Social Media:

Please Share 3-5 Examples/Documentation of Your Art:

Please share the URL of any online articles, interviews, video, photos, etc. If there is not an online link (url), then please email the files to: folkart@everhart-museum.org

NOTE: Please do not mail any physical photos or discs or art pieces to us. We will not review nor return samples received by US Post. Questions? folkart@everhart-museum.org

APPLICATION FOR FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTISTS ROSTER - PG 2



The following information will help us understand your traditional art or practice more fully. Please answer any or all that will best explain your art.

What is the traditional practice, traditional art, culinary tradition that you want to share here? If more than one, please list them in order of your relative expertise in each.

How did you become interested in your traditional practice? When do you first remember seeing it? Who was doing it?

Who most particularly taught you the skills and/or influenced your practice of this tradition?

How long did it take you to master it? Any special means of doing so? Have you practiced this continually throughout your life?

Is your artistic practice tied to a particular place or community? If so, describe connection.

What is the brief history of your traditional practice? When / where are its origins? Have you seen it evolve over your lifetime? What is the future of your tradition? Are there any challenges to its sustainability?

APPLICATION FOR FOLK & TRADITIONAL ARTISTS ROSTER - PG 3



The following information will help us understand your traditional art or practice more fully. Please answer any or all that will best explain your art.

What does this artform mean to you? (Your personal attachment, reasons you practice it, etc)

Where were you born and (roughly) when?

Was this traditional practice valued in your family? Was it part of your early life?

Were members of your family also involved in other arts? Who? What forms did they practice?

Have you / Do you teach others? Are you happy with the engagement of younger generations?

What aspirations do you have for your own work? For your broader artform (in 10 yrs or so)?

How do you envision the Everhart Folk Arts Initiative assisting you in meeting your goals?

Thank you for your care in answering these important questions. They have been adapted from Marjorie Hunt's Cultural Traditions/Occupational Skills interview questions in The Smithsonian Folklife and Oral History Interviewing Guide. With thanks to our neighbors, The Folk Arts Alliance of Schuylkill, Berks, and Lancaster.

ABOUT THE EVERHART MUSEUM



Here for our community for over a century - still growing with the times.

Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum is one of the oldest museums in Northeastern Pennsylvania and part of the early 20th-century regional museum movement. Monies and initial natural history collections were provided by Dr. Isaiah Fawkes Everhart, a Scranton physician and Civil War veteran. Everhart conceived that the Museum would serve not only the immediate City of Scranton but the whole of Northeast Pennsylvania.

Today, The Everhart Museum continues to be one of the region's leading resources for educational and cultural opportunities. With a multidisciplinary and diverse approach, the Everhart creates extraordinary experiences for everyone in our region. Our programs stimulate creative expression and active engagement between art and science. Whether you attend a lecture, workshop, or studio course, our classes are designed for all ages, interests, and abilities.

"Museum at Home" is a new way to interact with the resources of the Museum, even when you can't get there. Explore our catalogue of online resources of museum lessons, inspiration boards, staff playlists, interactive experiences, and more. Content will be added regularly, including links to content from other museums. As Dr. Everhart knew in 1908, we continue to grow with and for our community, stronger together!

1901 Mulberry Street, Scranton PA 18510
www.everhart-museum.org

