



# ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL NEWSLETTER

A National Historic Landmark

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

## 120 Years and Counting...Another Exhilarating Challenge!

Maggie Forbes, Executive Director

As anyone who reads this newsletter knows, I love milestones. I recently learned that the Library & Music Hall will be celebrating its Quasquicentennial (125th) as the country celebrates its Semiquicentennial (250th) in 2026. Just imagine the programs and celebrations we will have five years hence!

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall first opened its doors on May 1, 1901. A 120th Anniversary doesn't rate a Latin name. But there is a Yiddish adage: *biz hundert un tzvantsig*. A wish for a long and good life, it colloquially translates to "until one hundred and twenty." Why? Because Moses lived that long. If it's good enough for Moses....

As we tentatively and gratefully emerged from these many long months of pandemic-living, we were not quite ready to party in May.

So we created a wonderful, musical anniversary video – spend four minutes with us! ([www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org)).

And we have terrific news and plenty to celebrate!

The Library & Music Hall has been awarded a \$1.25 million state grant from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) for "Completing the Carnegie Carnegie." We are overwhelmed with pride and gratitude.

I extend heartfelt and deserved thanks to State Senator Wayne Fontana. This is not the Library & Music Hall's first RACP grant; nor is it the first time Sen. Fontana has acted as the Library & Music Hall's champion. A long-time supporter of the Library &

Music Hall, he undoubtedly helped the Carnegie Carnegie successfully navigate a very competitive statewide field. Asked to comment, Senator Fontana replied:

"I'm fortunate to represent so many terrific communities in the City of Pittsburgh and surrounding municipalities that are home to a plethora of wonderful regional cultural assets.

What has always stood out to me when thinking about the Carnegie Carnegie, though, is the special bond the people of Carnegie have with the Carnegie Carnegie. No matter the challenge, the community's support has

never wavered. While the Carnegie Carnegie is a true regional asset, to the people of Carnegie, it belongs to them and it is something they are proud to call their own."

The Senator knows the Library & Music Hall and the community it serves well.



*CJL Engineering explores attic above Music Hall in advance of HVAC and lighting design. (Courtesy The Design Alliance)*

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**See "120 Years and Counting," page 3**



## Carnegie has lost a favorite son. The Library & Music Hall has lost a beloved friend.

*For a retrospective on Bill Manby's and the Chartiers Valley Partnership's contribution to the transformation of the Library & Music Hall see page 6.*

## ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

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## Library Hours

### Monday

2 p.m. – 8 p.m.

### Tues., Wed., Thurs.

10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

### Friday

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Saturday

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Sunday Closed

### Summer hours (June 26 to August 28)

#### Saturday

11 a.m.—3 p.m.

## Contacts

**Phone:** 412-276-3456

**Fax:** 412-276-9472

### ACFL&MH Staff

**Executive Director**  
Maggie Forbes, x8

**Library Director**  
Walker Evans, x12

**Music Hall Director**  
Melanie Paglia, x6

**Espy Post Curator**  
Jon-Erik Gilot, x19

**Finance**  
Diane Klinefelter, x9

**Assistant Library Director/Facility Manager**

Nate Wyrick, x5

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Katie Byerly, x16

### ACFL&MH Website & Social Networks

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

Find us on Facebook:

@CarnegieCarnegie and

@Captain-Thomas-Espy-GAR-Post-153

## Dear Friends:

We write as a new Board President and a seasoned Executive Director. As the country emerges from what felt an endless period of pandemic-inflicted constraints, so too is the Library & Music Hall! The “new normal” does not yet feel familiar. Old patterns and habits were suspended or cast off. New ones feel tentative.

Yet we marvel at the Library & Music Hall’s evolution and accomplishments over the last 16 months. We expect our April Earth Day Program to evolve into an annual program. *Listen Locally Outside* with Jimmy Adler was memorable even before legendary bluesman Billy Price did a surprise guest turn. Our long-time Espy Post Curator Diane Klinefelter retired in January. She not only significantly advanced the Post’s regional and national standing, but seamlessly passed the baton to her successor, Jon-Erik Gilot. At April’s virtual Second Saturday Civil War Talk, participants from ten states, Ireland, UK, Venezuela and Kuwait joined regional audiences! As we return to in-person programming, we will continue to Zoom.

We are so grateful for Isabel Ford’s six years as President of the Board. Isabel Ford’s connection to the ACFL&MH is generational. (Her great grandfather was a member of the inaugural Board of Trustees.) And we’re thankful that Isabel is rolling with a fine point of Robert’s Rules of Order to continue her Board service for one more year. The ACFL&MH benefits from her dedication! We thank Joe Myers for his service as Treasurer. And we are delighted to introduce three new Board members in these pages.

We sadly say good-bye to Bill Manby. The Library & Music Hall’s transformation began with his vision.

Thanks to government and foundation support and your generosity the Carnegie Carnegie has fared better than we dared to hope at the outset of the pandemic. We maintained full employment and staff dug in to continue providing services and programming. The Library & Music Hall did not fall behind. We moved forward.

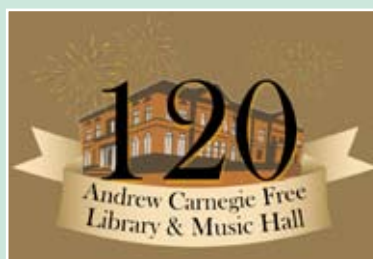
As we announce on page 1, the ACFL&MH has been awarded its largest grant ever for “Completing the Carnegie Carnegie” – finishing Library Park, enhancing the Studio, Mezzanine and an air conditioned Music Hall! The \$1.25 million state Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant does not come free and clear, however. It requires a dollar for dollar match that we must raise from other sources.

We’ve done this before, though not on so large a scale. We will do it again. But only with your continued generosity. The last leg is steep. But look at what we continue to accomplish together.

Thank you.

Christopher S. Green  
President, ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

Maggie Forbes  
Executive Director



Watch our Anniversary video at [www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org).

What's left to do?

- We will finish **Library Park**! From its inception, Library Park engendered enormous community excitement, before being interrupted by a 2018 mudslide. The Park will convert our steep grounds from a barrier to inviting green space that connects the Library & Music Hall to Main Street below. A “pathway to participation” for ACFL&MH performances and programs, Library Park will help position Carnegie Borough as one of Allegheny County’s most attractive destination communities.
- Our once waterlogged gym is now the **Studio**. It is a venue for art shows, symposia, job fairs, training, poetry readings, an alternative performance space with a club vibe, and an increasingly popular place for weddings, milestone birthdays and reunions. Technical upgrades and finalizing code requirements will maximize the Studio’s versatility and popularity.



*The full plan for Library Park.*

- As will connecting it to the **Mezzanine**. A partial floor between the Library and Studio levels, and the only unimproved space in the building, the Mezzanine will become small meeting rooms. Some programs work better in an intimate setting or deserve privacy. These include: tutoring; tax help; teen and senior activities; supervised visits; testing; and cooking classes.
- Already valued by performers and audiences for its acoustics and ambience, the **Music Hall** will emerge as one of the region’s sought-after performance venues. Restoring water-ravaged plaster and artful painting will bring out the Hall’s beautiful bone structure and complement the already grand proscenium. New house lighting and rewiring will enhance both safety and aesthetics. Upgrades to sound and lighting systems will align the Music Hall with professional industry standards. Most impactful, air conditioning will make the Hall a year-round venue.

As the article on page 6 reminds us, the ACFL&MH has traversed an extraordinary distance since late 2003. But our work is not done. Our state grant requires a dollar for dollar match to release it.

This challenge does not have a traditional “drop deadline.” Because Phase I, Library Park, is ready to go, we are on track! Our goal is to complete the mudslide-delayed Park before hard frost. Celebratory openings can wait for spring.

We hope to begin Phase II – the Mezzanine, Studio and Music Hall – as Library Park is done. The pandemic shuttered the Hall; so too will construction. The sooner we begin, the sooner our gem of a regional venue can reach its full potential.

We can start as soon as we’ve secured the match.



*Engineers found this 1905 chalked message in the the Music Hall’s attic. (Courtesy CJL Engineering)*

Foundations are stepping up. However, the Carnegie Carnegie began its transformation from moribund to magical thanks to extraordinary community generosity. Eighteen years ago, we embarked upon this remarkable journey together. It’s been a wonderful ride! With your continued support, we will reach our destination: the fully restored... revitalized... and sustainable Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall.

This last leg is a steep one, but we are so close. Please contact me at 412-276-3456, x8 or [forbes.mj@gmail.com](mailto:forbes.mj@gmail.com) with questions about memorial or honor gifts, pledges, ideas or just to check on our progress.



## Of New Curators and Old Veterans...

*Jon-Erik Gilot, Espy Post Curator*

*Thomas E. Morgan*

It has been years since my last appearance in this newsletter. At that time, I was a graduate student working as an intern in the Espy Post. The room had only recently reopened following a meticulous restoration. In the Spring 2011 newsletter I related how we had digitized a 16mm film showing the 1934 dedication of the Chartiers Creek bridge. Cutting the ribbon on the bridge was Thomas E. Morgan, seemingly the last surviving Espy Post veteran.

A lot has happened in the intervening years. A new job took me to Wheeling, WV, where my wife and I eventually relocated. We had two daughters, who challenge and fascinate me each and every day. Specks of gray are showing up along my temples. Yet, my interest in the Civil War remained steadfast, as did my relationship with former ACFL&MH Director and Espy Post Curator, Diane Klinefelter. As Diane contemplated retirement in late 2020, she contacted me to see if I might consider a return to the Carnegie Carnegie.

While Diane's impact can be seen and felt in every corner of the building, the Espy Post benefitted enormously from her tenure at ACFL&MH. The room has undergone a stunning restoration. Many of its artifacts appreciate a new lease on life following careful preservation and climate control. She built an unparalleled Civil War research collection, enjoyed by patrons near and far. Each month, Diane brought world class speakers to our popular 2nd Saturday Civil War Lecture Series, drawing thousands of new visitors to ACFL&MH and the Espy Post.

Diane essentially handed this Civil War enthusiast the keys to the kingdom. I have spent the past four months re-familiarizing myself with the Espy Post and its collections. I have been reacquainted with old faces and met many new ones,

from Library & Music Hall staff and board, to our outstanding docent corps. While the ongoing pandemic has kept us operating virtually, we welcomed everyone back for our first in-person 2nd Saturday Lecture on June 12, and with it some sense of returning normalcy.

The Espy Post still has many stories to tell for those of us willing to dig. These stories become especially relevant as recent events have challenged the ways in which we remember the Civil War. It was, after all, the veterans of the Civil War – including those members of the Espy Post – who decided how the war would be remembered in the decades following. The Espy Post is itself a time capsule of Civil War memory, with artifacts curated and memorialized by the veterans themselves. By examining these veterans,

their lives, experiences, and the artifacts they left behind, we can better appreciate what was included in – and what was left out of – the historical record.

Researching the common Civil War soldier has been a passion of mine for more than 25 years. As we consider the nearly 3 million men (and women!) who fought in the Civil War, it is easy for individuals to become faceless. However, each number represents an individual with his or her own story to tell. The Espy Post includes stories of more than two hundred of these individuals, such as Thomas E. Morgan and Edward W. Powers.

Morgan was 17 when he enlisted as Private in Company E, 155th Pennsylvania in August 1862. According to Morgan, it was not patriotism that drew him into the service of his country; it was a means of avoiding a warrant after being caught stealing berries. Morgan's service with the 155th included conveying some 2,500 captured Confederate soldiers from the Gettysburg battlefield to military prisons, before his eventual transfer to the Veteran Reserve Corps.

Following the war Morgan made his home in Carnegie. He was an active member of the Espy Post, contributing curios and relics of his war experiences to Memorial Hall, where they may still be seen today. By 1934 Morgan was celebrated as the last surviving member of the Espy Post, a position of honor he enjoyed until his death in January 1936. Morgan's obituary reported the death of "Colonel" Thomas E. Morgan. Never mind that Morgan never rose above the rank of Private during his military service. He had appropriated the title of "Colonel"

(as did many Civil War veterans) to control how he was remembered. However, his distinction of “last living” only depends on which qualifiers you use.

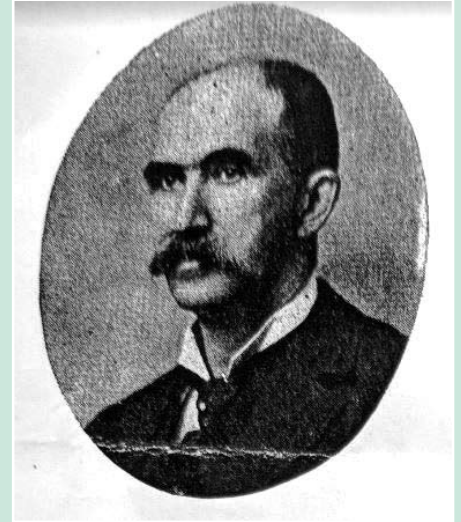
Recent research has uncovered that the likely last survivor of the Espy Post was Edward W. Powers who at one time – get this – lived right next door to the Library & Music Hall. Powers was an Ohio native who served in the 84th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and later the 171st Ohio National Guard. Powers was wounded at the Battle of Keller’s Bridge, Kentucky on June 11, 1864. He and nearly 700 men of his regiment were captured during the fighting by Confederate General John Hunt Morgan’s Cavalry before being released the following day.

Following the war Powers moved to 426 Beechwood Avenue in Carnegie – the white house next to our wrap-around driveway! He developed several coal mines in the Chartiers Valley area before selling his mines to the Pittsburgh Coal Company and relocating to Columbiana County, Ohio. Before leaving the area, Powers joined the Espy Post, while his wife, Mary Moore Powers, was active in the Monday Club of Carnegie and Ladies of the G.A.R. In their younger years, Powers and his wife had been classmates of future president William B. McKinley.

Powers remained in Ohio until his death on July 26, 1940, four years after the death of Thomas E. Morgan. His widely reported death left less than 200 Civil War veterans living in Ohio, a state that had contributed nearly 320,000 men to the war effort. Many of the obituaries that ran statewide related his brief but memorable war experiences. However, they did not

convey that Powers had been charged with criminal negligence in 1889 when his Thoms Run mine exploded due to insufficient ventilation, killing four miners. Although Powers was later acquitted of the charge, the stigma of the disaster likely continued to haunt him. Local newspapers recount individuals harassing and taunting Powers as a “murderer,” perhaps contributing to his eventual relocation. While his membership had undoubtedly lapsed many years before, my research finds Powers the last surviving ‘one-time’ member of the Captain Thomas Espy Post.

My point is that these veterans tightly controlled their wartime records, both in life and death. How they remembered the war influences how we understand it, from the very causes of the war down to their individual participation. I look forward to building on Diane’s strong foundation and fleshing out these stories as we continue peeling back the layers of historical memory at the Captain Thomas Espy Post.



*Edward W. Powers*

## A Civil War Destination

*The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall is Pittsburgh’s most significant Civil War destination. The historic landmark facility, located a short walk above Carnegie’s charming Main Street, is home to:*



### **The Captain Thomas Espy Post No. 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic**

Civil War veterans who served in the Union armed services met at the Library from 1906 until the late 1930s. Restored in 2010, the Espy Post has been documented as the most intact GAR Post in the country. Once there were 10,000...

### **Lincoln Gallery**

A rare collection of 100 photographs of Abraham Lincoln from the 1847 daguerreotype of the young U.S. Congressman from Springfield, IL to the only known photograph of Lincoln lying in state in 1865.



**The Espy Post and Lincoln Gallery are free and open to the public:**

- Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or by special arrangement
- Visit [www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org) or call 412-276-3456

# Another Light Goes Out: A Job Well Done

William E. "Bill" Manby, Carnegie High School Class of 1951, died on March 19, 2021. Myriad people have contributed in ways large and small to the Library & Music Hall's transformation. However, if there is one person who played the lead role by having the vision, determination and force of personality to launch the capital campaign to restore our facility and get others to join in, it was Bill.

In the 1990s Bill was dismayed by the vulnerable state of the ACFL&MH's beautiful building. He and a group of close friends agreed that rescuing the building was a compelling cause. A partnership was born: the Chartiers Valley Partnership (CVP).

Charlie Goetz, who co-chaired the campaign, passed away in 2010. "Dr. Mike" Kutsenkow lost his battle with Parkinson's, also in 2010. Architect and another CHS 1951 alum Bill English died in 2011. Health challenges have curtailed Bob Gordon's deep involvement. When Ted Frantz, co-founder of TEDCO Construction Corporation, died in January, Bill commented, "I guess I am the last man standing."

Would that you still were, Bill....

Thanks to Bill and his colleagues, the Library & Music Hall's lights continue to shine brightly. As we embark on the last leg of the journey that the CVP began, it seems fitting to rerun this article from Fall 2011.

## 2003: THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN IS LAUNCHED

After years of diligent behind the scenes work, the capital campaign was officially launched in November 2003 with the announcement of a \$500,000 challenge grant from an anonymous donor. The terms: the CVP must raise a dollar for dollar match in 10 months – from the community – no foundations, no Pittsburgh Corporations, no government funding. If the community didn't support its library, why should anyone else?

Carnegie (including people from around the country with ties to the borough) responded generously. Bolstered with leadership gifts from two other CHS class of 1951 alumni, John Leone and Bill Pysh, the campaign hit the boards running. With two weeks left before the September 30 deadline, the campaign was \$45,000 short of its goal. Then on September 17, 2004, disaster struck; flooding caused by Hurricane Ivan ravaged Carnegie. In the face of an unequivocal tragedy, the community rallied and contributed an astonishing \$60,000 to meet and exceed the goal. The community's generosity has taken on legendary stature, it is the cornerstone of the campaign's success to date, a campaign that has not faltered.

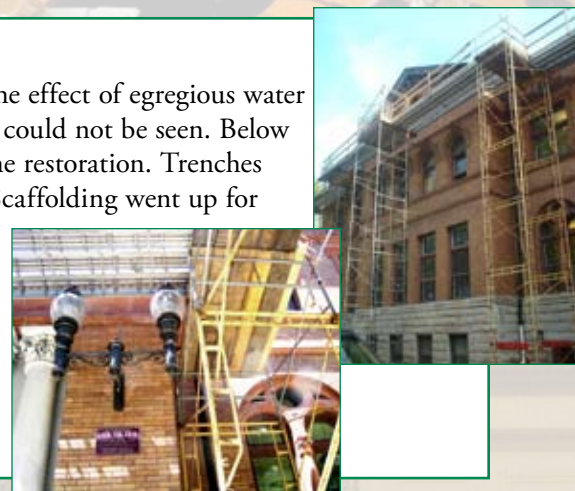


## 2004: THE RESTORATION BEGINS

The Partnership assembled a design team consisting of The Design Alliance Architects, Landau Building Company, ACFL&MH trustee Betsy Martin, and Maggie Forbes. The first priority was making the then 103-year-old building accessible, removing asbestos and replacing the woefully inadequate and malfunctioning plumbing system. In the 21st century, toilets had signs directing users on "how to flush!" The dreary second floor Lecture Hall was converted into the lovely Reception Hall, graced with heavily embossed, opaline glass pendant lights that Landau Project Superintendent Wayne Rabbitt found buried under rubble in the basement.

## 2005-2007: WEATHERPROOFING

For decades water penetrated the ACFL&MH building virtually unchecked. The effect of egregious water damage was evident throughout the building and – more insidiously – in places it could not be seen. Below and above grade weatherproofing was the most essential and ambitious phase of the restoration. Trenches were dug around the building to parge the foundation and install French drains. Scaffolding went up for repairing the roof, cornices, gutters, terracotta; mortar work; installing thermal double paned windows, etc. Weatherproofing included cleaning the grimly soot-stained brick and painting the wood trim. Architects took a core sample of the original paint and discovered it was a lovely "tone on tone" terracotta color that matched the brick. Happily, trenches and scaffolding proclaimed progress, generating interest and involvement among ACFL&MH patrons. To anyone passing by, the building was beautiful again.



## 2008: THE SECOND CHALLENGE

In late 2007, the campaign received its second challenge grant from the same anonymous donor. This time, foundation and corporate money would be counted along with community support (though government funding was still barred). However, the stakes were raised: the CVP needed to raise \$1 million by December 2008 in order to secure its second \$500,000 challenge grant.

This challenge was even more bracing in light of the financial crisis that held the country in its grip in the second half of the year. In October 2008, the Partnership was \$400,000 short of its goal. In December 2008, CVP had raised \$1,014,060! When the final accounting was done, \$325,000 came from foundations. The balance came small businesses two very successful benefits held late in the year, and – once again and overwhelmingly – from the community!

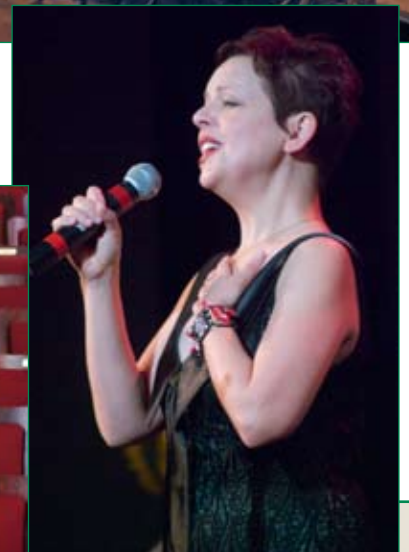
## 2008, CONTINUED: INTERIOR RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY

The first serious interior restoration began with the Music Hall's erstwhile dark and dreary lobby. New glass panels in the exterior doors now usher audiences into a light-filled space, showcasing beautifully restored egg and dart molding and dentil plaster work. A box office and concession room obviated the need for the old folding tables that cluttered the lobby. And for performers the most exciting improvement was the transformation of a cramped, oppressive changing room (singular) into spacious and gracious women's and men's dressing rooms, each equipped with a restroom and shower.

## 2009: NEW SEATS IN THE MUSIC HALL

No sooner did the final curtain go down on Stage 62's production of "Little Shop of Horrors" than Landau rolled in to begin work on the most anticipated upgrade to date: comfortable seating in the Music Hall. The rippling blue carpet and the hazardous "step up" for each row – the old chairs were not built to accommodate the Hall's raked floor – were removed and the floor was reinforced. New seats, designed to reflect the Music Hall's historic character while offering great comfort and great sight lines, made their debut at the CVP's annual benefit: Daphne Alderson's "All Judy, All Heart" concert honoring Judy Garland. Once again, the community came through to make the new seats possible. Standing on stage looking out at the seats, hundreds of brass plaques signal families', businesses' and community groups' support of the Library & Music Hall. There are still seats remaining waiting for your family's plaque!

Remembering with Love  
Walter F. Korpiel  
Devoted Husband, Father



## 2010: AN AMERICAN TREASURE RESTORED

On February 12, 2010, the 201st anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth, the Library & Music Hall celebrated the re-opening of the Captain Thomas Espy Post No. 153 of the Grand Army of the Republic. Dick Thornburgh, former Governor of Pennsylvania and Rosslyn Farms native, presided over the opening. The restoration garnered national and international press! The rare Civil War room has been documented by scholars as the most intact GAR Post in the county; once there were 10,000 GAR Post from Portland, ME to Portland, OR. Visitors have been flocking from throughout the region and across the country. The restored Espy Post is nothing short of the ACFL&MH's gift back to America.



## 2011: SUMMER COMFORT AND THE STUDIO

June 21 marked the first day of summer and the first time in 110 years that the Library was air conditioned. Summer's punishing temperatures and humidity no longer plague Library patrons, staff and the collection itself. It's hard to measure whether patrons or staff are more appreciative of the improvement.

Joe Negri's memorable October 1 benefit performance was followed by a party that continued to delight the audience. The party took place on all three floors of the ACFL&MH, with the old water-logged gymnasium making a dazzling debut as the new Studio. The ACFL&MH now has nearly 3,000 sq. ft. of bright, versatile programming space that will be busy from morning to night with school programming, rehearsals, elegant parties and more.



The Chartiers Valley Partnership raised more than \$7.5 million in the eight years between 2003 and 2011. Its efforts ensured the Library & Music Hall's second century of service.

The CVP took stock, and decided that its job was done. It formally dissolved at the end of 2011, turning over the responsibility for completing the ACFL&MH's restoration to the Library & Music Hall's Board and staff.

Since this article ran in 2011, the ACFLMH has gone on to raise \$5 million more. The interior restoration of the ACFL in 2015 secured its standing as one the region's loveliest libraries. Phase I of Library Park -- from the grounds to the building -- created a wonderful new sense of place. The Park's mosaic benches, fabricated and installed in 2018, are on their way to becoming community icons. Until the upheaval of the pandemic, the vitality of services, programming and performances grew steadily.

With your continued help, the ACFL&MH will finish what the Chartiers Valley Partnership began. We *will* complete the Carnegie Carnegie.

## Unexpected Gems

*Walker Evans, Library Director*

Here at the Library, we always strive to provide fun and edifying programs for our patrons of all ages. It isn't always easy to predict which of these efforts will resonate with our patrons – there are so many different kinds of people who live in Carnegie and surrounding communities. We want to serve you all! Sometimes – frequently, I hope – we really hit the mark.

Other times, it's more of a mixed success. But even though it can be discouraging to plan a program that doesn't end up engaging our community, I look for the silver linings. These moments are opportunities for us to learn a little more about our patrons and what they're looking for from us. And sometimes, those silver linings end up introducing us to hidden gems.

When we decided to celebrate National Poetry Month at the Library last April, we were excited to share the beauty and strength of poetry with our patrons. We planned a series of special readings, featuring a pair of luminaries of the local poetry world: Samuel Hazo, Pennsylvania's first poet laureate, and Fred Shaw, a Carnegie native whose 2020 collection *Scraping Away* was acclaimed by Kristofer Collins of the *Post-Gazette*, who loved how Shaw's poems "burst from the page."

We hoped to do more than share phenomenal poetry with our patrons - we wanted to encourage them to write their own poems. We asked Carlynton Junior/Senior High students to submit their best work for a poetry slam competition; we were disappointed to receive only one entry. But I think you'll agree that this one remarkable entry made it all worthwhile! Morgan Floyd's poem speaks of resilience, compassion, and self-care – traits that we have all needed during this challenging past year. Please enjoy this debut publication of *A Letter to Myself* by Morgan Floyd.



## Poet's Introduction

Hi! My name is Morgan Floyd and I am an eighteen-year-old senior at Carlynton Jr./Sr. High School. I wrote this poem that's published here. I wrote it straight from the heart and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do! After graduation, I plan on going into the workforce for a year to a year a half, then going to college for Business Management. I would like to open a small business of some kind in the future.

## A Letter to Myself

*Morgan Floyd*

Dear Me,  
From the moment  
You were born  
And thinking wildly  
On your own  
In your bed alone  
I knew one thing was real:

You were to be the strongest person I  
knew.

A strength that would take your all-  
From mind and body  
To spirit and soul.

As an eight year old kid  
Growing stronger everyday  
You never could've prepared to actually  
need that strength  
You only ever saw it as finding use in  
helping others  
Never yourself

And so you used that strength.  
You used it to pick yourself off the  
ground you laid on  
You used it for the one other person  
that mattered more to you than yourself  
You asked for my strength  
I gave you all of it  
Because to me, that's all we had at the  
time.

You pushed through the tears and the  
hurt  
Not because you needed to for yourself,  
no  
But because everyone else needed to be  
okay.

You did everything for everyone  
Because they mattered more  
When someone made you feel as  
Loved as they used to love you.

You always gave everyone everything  
you had  
And I'll always applaud you for it.  
But I can't sit and watch you abandon  
yourself anymore.

Sometimes you're all you have.  
My body can handle it all now.  
My mind can handle it all too.

But my heart knows when it's time to  
take a rest.

And that's okay.  
I'm ready to rest.  
I want you to know it's okay now.  
So we can both fully enjoy  
The good in our lives.  
The good and the bad.  
We have given everyone around us  
EVERYTHING we had.

And we both know, no matter what  
happens  
We will always be the kid to help  
everyone before ourselves  
With the smile on their face  
Helping everyone they can  
When deep down their the one that  
needs the help  
But, don't worry, you found someone  
who knows you need the help  
You're gonna be okay.

Love Always,  
Yours Truly

## Tails and Tales – Summer Reading 2021!



JoLynne Dougherty, Children's Programming Coordinator

The Children's area has the best windows in the library. It is the window where we put any plants that need a little extra TLC to grow. (Come look at my prayer plant and I will tell you the story of how we saved its life). It is a real pleasure to sit at my desk and watch the changing of the seasons. Seeing the leaves on the trees blowing in the breeze lets me know that it is time for school to be done for the year, and for summer vacation to begin. Yay! It also means that it's time for Summer Reading to begin.

This year's Summer Reading (SR) theme is *Tales and Tails*. Come to the Library to sign up or visit our website, [www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org). When you come to the Library, we will give you your necklace and first SR Brag Tag. We will be using the Beanstack app to track your reading. Each week, when you come to a program at the Library or do your reading, you can earn a different *Tales and Tails* Brag Tag. If you complete all eight weeks, you'll earn a special Brag Tag for finishing!

For the *Tails* portion, Tonilyn Jackson will be bringing Virginia Woof, her Bernedoodle (a cross between a Bernese Mountain Dog and a Poodle) to the Library on Wednesday afternoons. Children in Kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome to sign up for a time slot to read a book to Ginny. Ginny is a very well-read dog, having been read to by many eager students. Reading to a dog, pet, or stuffed animal is a great way for children to practice their reading skills and to gain fluency. These reading partners do not judge or correct a child's reading and this allows them to read without being self-conscious. Also, Ginny is soft and snuggly, and has the sweetest disposition. Her hair is hypoallergenic, so allergies should not be a problem. Give us a call and we'll set aside a timeslot between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. for your young reader.

For the *Tales* part of Summer Reading, we'll be going around the world to eight different countries to learn about their folktales, culture and language. We'll visit Japan, Cuba, Australia, Denmark, Mexico, Canada, Kenya and the Philippines. Each week, participating children can come to the Library and get their passports for the country that we'll be studying. On Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m., come to the Library where we'll listen to a folktale or

two from the country we're exploring, and learn to count to 10 in that country's language. Look on the calendar for other crafts and activities that will be coming up.

We are excited to begin in-person programming again! We are also adding some new programs along with keeping some old favorites. *Baby and Toddler Storytime* will be offered at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday mornings and will be held in person in the Children's Department. There will be a time change for *Preschool Storytime* as well. It

will be at Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. with a craft afterwards. Our Monday night *Family Storytime* at 7:00 p.m. will continue to be offered via Facebook. You do not need to have a Facebook account, just click on the link from the calendar on our website. Also, check out our newest storytime. It's bilingual. We read books in both English and Arabic. It is offered in collaboration with Rema Abdin from the Attawheed Islamic Center. I am enjoying learning some words in Arabic. It is also offered on Facebook on the fourth Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m. We hope to see you there. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me at (412) 276-3456 x11 or at [doughertyj@einetwork.net](mailto:doughertyj@einetwork.net).

Last year's sidewalk obstacle course was such a success that I've decided to create a new one. The old course is not going without a fight. Keep your eye on our website. We will let you know when the new one is up and running so that you can be up and running through it!

It will be wonderful to see both new and familiar faces. As the pandemic winds down, children who've come in to borrow books make me understand my grandparents more. Every time we would see them when my sister and I were kids, they would mention how much we had grown. It never felt to me like I had grown very much. But looking at my storytime friends, I can definitely see that they've been growing despite the pandemic.

Kids under 12 aren't eligible for vaccines yet. Patrons (two and older) who have not been vaccinated have to keep wearing masks when they visit the Library. I've had my vaccines, but to keep you company, I will wear my mask during story times.



# And Just Like that...We're Back!

Melanie Paglia, Music Hall Director

Like early buds in spring, notes of normalcy emerge around us. For me, the greatest signal that the worst of our suffering may finally be behind us is the return to programming. Our beautiful Music Hall has spent more than a year shuttered but we were anything but idle during that time. "Pivot" became a pandemic buzzword for our creative approaches to doing what we could. If we spent the last year pivoting, then imagine the months ahead as a *grand jeté*.

On the next page you'll find a truly eclectic list of program offerings from Traditional Irish Song and Dance in the Music Hall to Broadway tunes *al fresco*. If you haven't yet enjoyed one of our *Listen Locally Outside* performances on the piazza in front of the Music Hall, you're missing out on a special venue. The grand architecture of the Music Hall entrance provides a striking backdrop for performances while opposite the performance area lies the lush green of soon-to-be completed Library Park, a scenic view of Main Street and panoramic sunsets. We set up tables and chairs in our parking lot and encourage ticket holders to pack a picnic to enjoy during most outdoor performances (see individual event listings for details.)

The Jimmy Adler Band kicked off our 2021 outdoor series in May with a fantastic blues show and a surprise guest appearance by R&B legend, Billy Price. (Mr. Price was quite smitten with our Music Hall and will return in February of 2022 for his own concert – stay tuned for ticketing!) Jimmy Adler attracted a great crowd of first time visitors and regional blues fans as well as curious onlookers who overheard us from Main Street below. RML Jazz is next in our outdoor concert series in August and you'll find many great offerings from our resident companies and partners on the piazza throughout the summer.

As beautiful as the entrance is, our real treasure is the Music Hall. I'm beyond thrilled to announce the return to in-person, indoor concerts in the Music Hall with Cello Fury on Friday, September 24. The cello-rock powerhouse, Cello Fury, always



packs the house for a phenomenal show that combines symphonic cello sounds with a driving rock beat. Please plan to celebrate our official re-opening with us! Your ticket purchases this year not only support future programming but also the Campaign to Complete the Carnegie Carnegie.

We're poised to close the Music Hall in 2022 for renovations. With your help, we will complete the Carnegie Carnegie. For the Music Hall specifically this means an upgrade to industry standard technology and safety standards as well as long overdue cosmetic upgrades. After 120 years and countless musicals, operas and dance recitals it's long past time to replace our love-worn stage floor. Among other items, we plan to swap out existing knob and tube electrics with dimmable house lighting, raise the existing balcony railing so guests can once again enjoy some of the best seats in the house, complete unfinished plaster and paint work and add air conditioning, allowing us to present year-round. This restoration will help us to preserve the Hall's beauty, intimacy and pristine acoustics, while securing its standing as one of the region's best venues. Please visit [CarnegieCarnegie.org](https://CarnegieCarnegie.org) for more information on

Completing the Carnegie Carnegie and how you can help us get it done.

It is a little unnerving to think of closing again after the Music Hall's pandemic hiatus. But there are so many wonderful program offerings to enjoy before then. And after the next pause, the Music Hall will finally be able to maximize its potential. Until then, celebrate our already lovely facility with us this season – in the Music Hall, in the Studio and on the piazza!



## Special Programming at the Carnegie Carnegie

*New programs are always being added, and all programs are subject to change. Visit [www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org), follow us on Facebook@CarnegieCarnegie, or call 412-276-3456 for the most current information on special and ongoing programming. Free shuttle service from the parking lot on E. Main Street is available for most Music Hall performances.*

*Stage 62 presents*

### SONGS FROM THE STEPS

Stage 62 invites you on a *Walk Down Memory Lane* with favorite songs from their past 50+ years.

Sunday, July 18, 2021 || 6:00pm

*Outdoors on the Piazza in front of the Music Hall*

### OPEN MIC NIGHT

Join us in the Studio for an eclectic evening of live music with local talent, hosted by Ed Auth.

Wednesday, July 21 || 7:00pm

*Studio*

*The Pittsburgh Savoyards presents*

### THE IMAGINARY INVALID

Enjoy a raucous evening of laughter with this classic comedy by the master of French farce, Moliere.

Friday, July 30 & Saturday, July 31 || 8:00pm

Sunday, August 1 || 2:30pm

*Outdoors on the Piazza in front of the Music Hall*



### RML JAZZ

Pack a picnic and enjoy an evening of jazz served smooth and hot with Listen Locally Downstairs Favorites, RML Jazz.

Saturday, August 14 || 7:00pm

*Outdoors on the Piazza in front of the Music Hall*

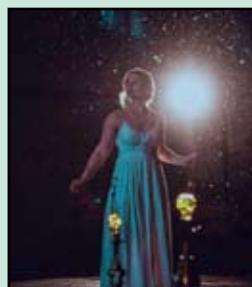
*Stage 62 presents*

### SONGS FROM THE STEPS

This summer series ends with *A Look into the Future*, a selection of songs of hope and looking forward.

Sunday, August 15 || 6:00pm

*Outdoors on the Piazza in front of the Music Hall*



### THE COLLECTIVE'S SUMMER PROJECT SERIES

A two-week intensive focusing on the process of Showcasing.

Ages (14-18)

August 9 - 20

*Studio*

*Photo courtesy of Nadine Green*

### CELLO FURY

The cello rock powerhouse, Cello Fury, returns to mark our first live and in-person concert in the Music Hall since March 2020.

Friday, September 24

*Music Hall*

*Pittsburgh Festival Opera presents*

### THE MILDRED MILLER INTERNATIONAL VOICE COMPETITION

Young talent from across the country compete for top prizes

Saturday, September 25

Sunday, September 26

*Music Hall*

*The Pittsburgh Savoyards presents*

### PRINCESS IDA

Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious twist on a traditional medieval fairytale.

Running October 8 - 17

*Music Hall*



### KYIV UKRAINIAN DANCE ENSEMBLE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Watch their red boots fly high in this showcase of traditional folk dances of Ukraine.

Saturday, October 23

*Music Hall*

## CELLO FURY

The cello rock powerhouse, Cello Fury, returns to mark our first live and in-person concert in the Music Hall since March 2020.

Friday, September 24

*Music Hall*

*Photo courtesy Nadine Sherman*



*Stage 62 presents*  
**9 TO 5**

Based on the seminal 1980 hit movie, this hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic.

Running November 11 - 21

*Music Hall*

### TRADITIONAL IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE

Visit our website for more information about this program coming soon.

November 5

*Music Hall*

*Carnegie Performing Arts Center presents*

### THE NUTCRACKER

Our youth company in residence presents their annual performance of the charming winter classic, The Nutcracker Ballet.

Running December 10 - 19

*Music Hall*

### SURE ON THIS SHINING NIGHT WITH BELL'ART ENSEMBLE

See "On This Shining Night" on page 20.

More information coming to our website soon.

Friday, December 31

*Music Hall*

## Celebrate Great Times

*We'd love to celebrate your next special event with you!*



Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, dinner parties, showers, weddings, no matter the occasion, we have the perfect space for you. Our historic site houses two unique event spaces, in addition to our 400-seat Music Hall.

The Lincoln Gallery 2,300 sq ft - sit down up to 60 or 100 cocktail-style

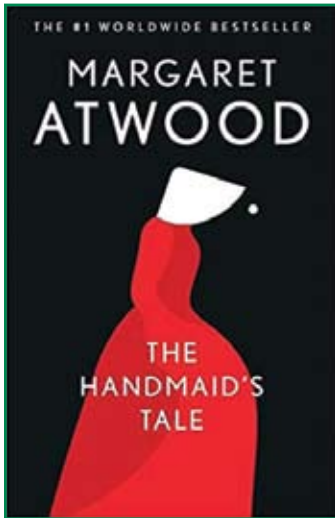
The Studio 2,600 sq ft - sit down up to 120 or 150 cocktail-style

Our affordable rates start at \$50-\$100/hr and include event furniture, a kitchenette, free parking, and much more!

Call 412-276-3456 x6 to schedule a tour today!

## Gripping Reading; Edge of the Seat Viewing

Nate Wyrick, Assistant Library Director/Facility Manager



I primarily review books for this newsletter, but books are not all that our Library offers. We offer magazines, DVDs and TV shows as well as other forms of media. As TV series continue to grow in popularity (we're all guilty of binge-watching something these days) the Library has begun to offer more television series for our patrons to watch. Some of the better series that I have personally gotten into have

been based on books, and one of my absolute favorites is *The Handmaid's Tale*.

*The Handmaid's Tale*, a novel by Margaret Atwood, is dystopian fiction that describes an America where the government has been overthrown during a second Civil War and is then ruled by a merciless group of fanatics during a global infertility crisis. Over the course of the book the author paints a picture of persecution and injustice against women in particular that won't let you stop turning the pages. You cannot help the feelings of horror, terror and rage that continually wash over you, even as the book leaves you wanting more.

For me, the best kind of dystopian narrative is one that convinces you that it could actually take place. And Atwood truly knocks it out of the park with *The Handmaid's Tale*. It's

thought-provoking, powerful and an absolute nightmare all woven into one story. Although I'm sure it bothered some who read it that the author ended the book in a very ambiguous way, I thought it couldn't be more perfect when Hulu announced they were developing it into a television series.

The first season is based on the book and follows it somewhat closely. Hulu capitalized on the vagueness of the book's ending and instead of one season of this incredible show, the story has evolved and expanded into five seasons. I would attribute the show's level of success and popularity in large part to the fact that Atwood has been directly involved in the writing of all the seasons that have been released.

The book took me on a very deep-thinking, emotional ride. The series, however, magnified that tenfold. It's so well made, written and acted that it all comes together in one seamless production. The end of every single episode left me very thirsty for more. And the series just keeps getting better and better. There has been more than one episode where I have erupted and yelled at the TV. Other times, I have looked at my wife as an episode's credits begin to roll and we are both sitting there with tears in our eyes.

One word of caution, this show is not for children. It is very violent, has sex scenes and is incredibly graphic.

(If you are looking for another incredible book adaptation series that's safe for the entire family I strongly recommend you check out the *Golden Compass/His Dark Materials* series from HBO, based on Philip Pullman's novels. I would love to tell you how amazing that book/show series is...but that's a whole other article.)

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### From "On This Shining Night", page 20

(*Devotion*) as well as Canteloube's *Songs of the Auvergne*. The final set of world folk music pays tribute to what we have been through around the globe, our resilience and the anticipation of times to come.

As we move through 2021, the "new normal" remains elusive. The details of *Sure on this Shining Night* are evolving, but the Library & Music Hall respects that audience members may have New Year's Eve traditions of their own. Instead of our usual throughout the facility post-performance party, the ACFL&MH plans to end the evening with a joyous ovation, sending everyone to the next leg of their celebration (a club, a family gathering, pajamas and a movie) with an elegant "box of delight."

You can have it all! Put New Year's Eve at the Carnegie Carnegie on your calendars now. Look for details at [www.CarnegieCarnegie.org](http://www.CarnegieCarnegie.org) and in upcoming eblasts and the next newsletter.

*Bell'ART and guests in 2016.*



## Welcome A-Board

The ACFL&MH is proud to introduce three new Trustees who joined the Board in March.



*Rema Abdin and family*

**Rema Abdin** sounds like a poet as she describes the way “the Library & Music Hall’s building sets a picture-perfect panoramic view of Carnegie, which feels like watching a painting in live mode. That charm captivates the soul upon entering. The authenticity that is held within its walls narrates a story of a history worth celebrating and cherishing.”

Perhaps Rema’s interior design background and marriage to architect Mahmoud enhances her appreciation of the Library & Music Hall’s facility. One of her first encounters with the ACFL&MH was when she brought her daughters Yasmeen, Yagoot and Zomorood to a mosaic mural workshop. (Then three-year-old Zomorood is on record as the youngest mural-maker!)

Her degrees (University of Jordan Amman, Duquesne University) are in Early Childhood Education. That expertise led to Rema’s collaboration with the Library to offer bilingual Arabic -English story times. Her son Rabah is an eager participant.

**Vashishta Bhaskar**, who goes by Bhaskar, recently retired after 37 years as a finance professor at Duquesne University. Timing was right; the ACFL&MH has a new Treasurer! The Library &



*Vashishta Bhaskar*

Music Hall got to know Bhaskar and his wife Mary when they served on the committees for the last two benefits – *MOSAIC!* and *Carnegie SWINGS!* (Remember the Carnegie Carnegie’s wonderful benefits....)

Asked about his motivation to join the Board, Bhaskar answered “I hope to build on the momentum of recent achievements under Maggie’s leadership. With an excellent engaged Board, I am confident we can continue the momentum, institutionalize planning and

processes to make the Library & Music Hall a destination asset that helps Carnegie and the surrounding region.”



*Rachel Enck and family*

**Rachel Enck** teaches English and Art at Carlynton Junior/Senior High. She grew up in Carnegie and Crafton, and is very aware of both the community’s needs and its “personality.”

Rachel is “excited to join the Board and help facilitate these final phases of the ACFL&MH’s restoration/construction. I also hope to provide further opportunities for collaborations with Carlynton School District.”

After graduating from Carlynton, Rachel attended Savannah College of Art & Design and then Carlow. She’s taught at Carlynton for eight years, and lives locally with her husband Evan Welsh and son Milo.

**Every time you walk through our doors — to take out a book, to enjoy a performance, to visit the Espy Post — you affirm the Library & Music Hall’s value. Spread the word about the Carnegie Carnegie. Introduce us to a friend. And please know what an honor it has been to serve our community for 120 years!**

# Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall's Campaign Contributors

*Heartfelt thanks to the many individuals, businesses and foundations that have contributed \$143,000 since October 2020. Your generosity has taken us through challenging times. An \* indicates more than one gift in this time period.*

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### Memorial Gifts

*The ACFL&MH is not only grateful, but deeply honored when gifts are made in someone's memory.*

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ACFL&MH Staff

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Peggy Rutkauskas



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Maggie Forbes

### ADRIAN VAN BALEN

Anonymous

### Honor Gifts

*Thank you so much to those who mark a birthday, anniversary, other milestone – or honor an iconic historic figure – with a gift to the Library & Music Hall!*

### ANDREW CARNEGIE

Keith Douglas Will

### CLARE GOETZ ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

Maggie Forbes  
Peggy Rutkauskas

### CHRIS & KATHY GREEN'S ACFL&MH BOARD SERVICE CHRISTMAS 2020

Caitlin Green

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Connie Davis

### ANA, ADDIE & SAM LEWIS

Denise Davis

### PEGGY RUTKAUSKAS' BIRTHDAY

Mary Beth Abraham

### Book Memorials

*The following people made donations to the Library to purchase memorial books. When you check out a book, look for a memorial or honor plate at the at the beginning of the book.*

### IRMA BYERLY

ACFL&MH Staff  
Alice McWreath

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### MARY TELAUSKY

ACFL&MH Staff

## A Man About Town

Jeff Keenan's enthusiasm for Carnegie, its Historical Society and its Library & Music Hall has earned him many monikers. Maggie Forbes has called him the ACFL&MH's "Caricaturist in Residence." Dan McGrogan, President of the Historical Society of Carnegie, dubbed him the "Mayor of Miniature Main Street." Jeff's penchant for diving in to support community happenings and events make him a recognizable a "Man About Carnegie."



He certainly knows a lot about Carnegie. He grew up in Scott. "Going to town" meant going to Carnegie at a time when some referred to the Borough as Little Pittsburgh. Jeff cites a promotion in a 1922 issue of the *Carnegie Signal-Item* that hailed Carnegie as the "Queen City of the Chartiers Valley."

During a period when Jeff was an almost daily Library patron, he became taken with Ms. JoLynne's regular singing storytimes. So much so that he penned her a self-portrait cartoon – "Shaking His Sillies Out."

The Library & Music Hall recognized a good thing, and conscripted him on the spot. Jeff drew cartoons at the festive open house celebrating the Library's beautiful interior restoration in 2015. His caricature table at the annual *Carnegie Celebrates the Season* event created lines that rivaled Santa's. And like Santa, Jeff stays until the last child gets a portrait.

After years of volunteering (he continues to do so), Jeff became a

Program Attendant in 2017. He takes his responsibility as "host" for ACFL&MH events very seriously, but also has a great time in the process. Asked about his favorite experiences, he complained "that's like asking me which of my kids do I love the most."

He mentioned Joe Negri's *Mass of Hope* in 2017 and the concert with the U.S. Air Force Band, *Rhythm in Blue* 2018. When the Gettysburg Foundation had a program in the ACFL&MH, Jeff fit in so smoothly that he was wooed as a possible benefactor. When Governor Wolf spoke at the ACFL&MH in 2019, Jeff gave the Governor a Honus Wagner cap that displayed on the podium throughout his remarks.

But one of his favorite memories is of the 2019 Great Gatsby-inspired New Year's Eve party in the Studio. "The guests outdid themselves with period costumes – I had dressed the part as well!" As midnight approached, snow began to fall. Balloons dropped, hugging and kissing ensued. "I was on the clock," remembers Jeff. "Embracing of any sort is not part of the job description."

So, as a model Program Attendant, he stepped outside with a shovel and bucket of salt to make sure no party-goers would slip on their way out. And he thought he'd stepped into *It's a Wonderful Life's* Bedford Falls.

"The view from the Library & Music Hall was magical. Looking down on Main Street's twinkling holiday lights, watching the church spires on Mansfield catch the gentle snowfall, I thought of what a great year 2019 had been. I thought of how much we all had to look forward to in 2020. It was a moment of serenity."

Jeff had no inkling what 2020 held in store. But not even a pandemic could shake his serenity – or his sillies out! Nor could it deter his commitment to Carnegie – a community that brightens and enriches Jeff Keenan's outlook on each day as it comes.



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## On This Shining Night

The stars have aligned and the Library & Music Hall has chosen December 31 for its annual benefit: ***Sure on this Shining Night***. Begin your New Year's Eve celebration at Carnegie Carnegie Hall...it's up to you where you take it from here!

Pandemic constraints took the ACFL&MH's traditional late-September benefit date out of consideration. 2021 seemed the year to look to a year-end performance. This will be the ACFL&MH's final benefit before the Music Hall's restoration (page 1).

Maggie Forbes and Melanie Paglia turned to Lenny Young and Raquel Winnica Young of Bell'Art Ensemble to develop a "celestial celebration."

Bell'Art Ensemble dazzled ACFL&MH audiences with *To Carnegie with Love* in 2016. (Think outstanding



musicians, tango, extraordinary video projections.) Talent and a beautifully curated performance are what the ACFL&MH knows to expect from Bell'Art.

"*Sure on this Shining Night*, Samuel Barber's beautiful setting of the James Agee poem, evokes joy, beauty, an aura of otherworldliness," said Forbes. "Raquel and Lenny had us on hello."

Celebration of the New Year has been

central to world cultures for millennia. Bell'Art draws inspiration from the sense of hope that new beginnings bring, the cyclical nature of life, the optimism of fresh starting points. This dovetails perfectly with putting the pandemic and its aftermath behind us.

In addition to Young (oboe and music arranger) and Winnica Young (mezzo soprano), the evening's performers include Bell'Art's

Billie Jo Miller on piano and guest artists Katya Janpoladyan on cello and Colin Pinto-Martin on percussion and marimba. Video artist David Bernabo brings a special "wow factor" to the evening.

The program hasn't been finalized, but will include Richard Strauss songs *Morgen (Tomorrow)* and *Zueignung*

**See "On This Shining Night", page 14**