Dionondehowa’s 2020 Calendar of Events

April 25  
**Creek Restoration Workshop** with David Hunt 9am - 4pm Volunteers needed

May 9  
**Annual Bird Walk** 9am - Noon  Donation

June 21  
**Taconic Music Concert** in The Muse Room  Joint Fundraiser 3pm  $15

July 18  
**Finding Faces in Nature Workshop** with Bonnie Hoag 1 - 4:30pm  $30

Aug 15  
**Introduction to the Abenaki Language** with Jesse Bruchac 1 - 4:30pm  $30

Sept 20  
**Annual singing of the AHHHpera “The Rift”** 1 - 4pm

And… every Thursday at 1pm please join us for **Holding the Earth**

Please note that while access to the Sanctuary is through the School, visits by appointment are available at 518.854.7764.

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**Finding Faces in Nature Workshop**

July 18 1 - 4:30pm Suggested donation $30.

This workshop, guided by Bonnie Hoag, invites participants to **Engage with the Enchantment** that awaits us at every turn here on the Sanctuary. And, more broadly, in the world. Simple, playful exercises intend to reawaken us to Delight as we prepare for uplifting spirit encounters. Yes! This workshop is based on the idea that this porous reality which surrounds us, can reveal itself to us with “faces”. Why faces? Because (perhaps) humans find a face familiar, offering an expectation of communication. From there we might consider that it is nature’s way of exhibiting consciousness. And, from there, the supposition that everything IS consciousness. Not that it merely has consciousness. But rather that it is consciousness. That this ocean of atoms we play in every day is fully conscious, in all its forms and expressions. Kind of takes the hum-drum out of Being Alive, don’t you think? BH

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**Artist in Residence: Anya Yermakova**

Anya Yermakova became our artist-in-residence in the summer of 2015. Her concerto for charango and orchestra, commissioned for the Pudahuel Youth Orchestra in Chile, was to be called **The Big Bang**. For those who may be unfamiliar with the charango, it is a small Andean stringed instrument of the lute family, now made of wood, but traditionally made from the shell of an armadillo. Recently, at our request, Anya reminisced about her time at Dionondehowa.

“After working on the concerto, on and off for almost a year, it became clear that I must carve out spacetime to focus exclusively on the flavor of composition that was at my fingertips but not quite yet on paper. The space came to mind immediately: years prior, as a young artist at the Manchester Music Festival, I performed on the piano of Dionondehowa’s Muse Room. The place enchanted me, the humans of the place beamed of kindness, and the nature of the Sanctuary was - in my mind - filled with infinite possibilities. The beginning of the piece starts with exactly that: the early universe, as we understand it, filled with potentialities. It couldn’t have been anything, but it could have been many other things, not only the one that led to humans being here.

While at Dionondehowa, I read books, worked through problems in an astrophysics textbook, composed on the piano, away from the piano. I wrote scores, took walks, listened to nature. I co-composed with the young cats: they played with the strings of my shoes while I played with the strings of the charango. And my hosts were my incognito composition teachers: their questions gently pushed into emergence structures of whole sections. Their prompts encouraged a parallel evolution of what became the concerto. In 2016 it was premiered by the Pudahuel Youth Orchestra in Chile with a final title of **Concerto for Charango and Orchestra: From the Big Bang through the Fundamental Laws.**

www.conciertocielos.cl/charango

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**Battenkill Inspired: The Flow of Creativity, Ingenuity and the River**

These mini-video documentaries are based on a popular exhibition curated by the **Folklife Center** in 2015. There are currently 30 videos in all, each approximately 2 minutes in length, featuring an intimate look at the Battenkill’s impact on the history, local arts, sites, and activities of the region. The series was produced by the Folklife Center at Crandall Library and the video featuring Bonnie Hoag was filmed, directed, and edited by Hanna DeGarmo.

To view the videos or explore the Crandall Library website, please visit [www.dionondehowa.org/2020_links](http://www.dionondehowa.org/2020_links).

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