Lambert Castle will be elegantly appointed for the holidays and open for self-guided candlelight tours. The first of the fundraisers is at 6 pm on Dec. 12. The second is between 1 and 4 pm on Dec. 13 and the final begins at 6 pm that same day. Area florists are donating their time, design skills and the materials to appoint this National Landmark Victorian era building.

“The Music Room, the Gem Room, the Formal Dining Room, the Breakfast Room and the Parlor will be among the nine rooms decorated with unique and artistic floral creations. Even the Great Art Hall will be laden with holiday boughs and bows,” said Museum Director Alison Faubert.

The arches, the balconies, and all the castle’s glorious mantles—each unique, some marble, some Italian Tulipwood, some oak and more—will be decorated. “What a beautiful setting for our floral designers to showcase their talents. We are so grateful for their contributions,” added Faubert.

Admission is $10 for adults, $8 for seniors and $6 for children 12 and under, which includes light refreshments. Proceeds of the event are to benefit the Passaic County Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c) 3 educational organization. The historical society runs a museum and local research library in Lambert Castle, which is part of the Passaic County Park system.

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**Other Upcoming PC Arts Events**

Dec. 5: Poetry reading at The Poetry Center, PCCC, Paterson
Dec. 5: Harmony Singers Peace, Hope & Harmony Concert, Pompton Lakes
Dec. 5: One World, Different Music and Dance Day, Clifton
Dec. 6: Chopin Singing Society Christmas Concert, Passaic
Dec. 11: The Nutcracker by NJ Foundation for Dance & Theatre Arts
Dec. 11: Concert Chorale Christmas Event, Little Falls
Dec. 11: Music at the Mission Holiday Celebration, West Milford
Dec. 12: Rita Costanzi at Ringwood Friends of Music
Dec. 12: Paterson Holiday Parade of Lights
Through Dec. 19: Artists’ Interpretations, Clifton Arts Center
Through Jan. 5: PYPP Photo Exhibit at PCCC, Paterson

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A Victorian Christmas tree nearly two stories high greets visitors in the Great Room.

Lambert Castle, located on Valley Rd. at the Clifton and Paterson border, was built in 1893 as a residence for Paterson’s silk magnate Catholina Lambert. It is perched high atop Garret Mountain and is long recognized as an icon for the county’s industrial and artistic history. There is plenty of free parking: for directions, membership and more about the castle and the PCHS go to www.lambertcastle.org or call 973-247-0085, ext.200.
The Ringwood Friends of Music celebrates its 25th Anniversary Season on Dec. 12 at 8 pm with harpist Rita Costanzi. One of the premier artists to emerge from Vancouver, Costanzi began training under her father, noted violist Francis Tursi and has achieved international recognition, receiving invitations to Tanglewood, Marlboro, Chautauqua, Sitka and Bellingham Festivals. The concert is at Community Presbyterian Church, 145 Carletondale Rd. Ringwood. Fee. Call 973-835-5862.

Peace, Hope & Harmony Concert: The winter holidays give individuals of all faiths pause to consider the concept of peace in the world as religious holiday anthems carry a message of hope, while secular songs call for making merry. This eclectic concert by the Harmony Singers, on Dec. 5 at 7:30 pm at the Pompton Reformed Church, 59 Hamburg Tpk, Pompton Lakes, expresses all of those sentiments, along with a few surprises. Tickets are $10 and children under 12 get in free. For more info, visit www.harmonysingersnj.org.

The Concert Chorale Christmas Concert is on Dec. 11 at 7:30 in the First Presbyterian Church, Caldwell, at the intersection of Bloomfield and Roseland Aves. A second concert will take place on Dec. 12 at 4 pm at the Second Reformed Church, 6 Walnut St., Little Falls. The program includes a mini-Christmas cantata and other seasonal favorites. Fee. For info, call 973-256-6353 or email yenda123@gmail.com.

Music at the Mission presents Gandalf Murphy and the Slambovian Circus of Dream’s Holiday Celebration on Dec. 11 at 8 pm. Music at the Mission is located at 1452 Union Valley Rd., West Milford. Fee, call 800-613-1455 or www.musicatthemission.org.

15th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Jazz Festival & Dinner is Jan. 16 at the Church of the Assumption, 35 Orange Ave., Clifton. Performers include Ike Brown’s Jazz Prophets Ensemble, Arnetta Johnson & Subito Sound and others. Dinner is at 6 pm. Tickets are $35 or $40 at the door. Call 973-478-4124.

The Chopin Singing Society #182 presents its Sixth Annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 6 at 3:30pm at the Polish-American Cultural Center 1-3 Monroe St., Passaic. The chorus is celebrating its 99th anniversary this year and is directed by Alicja Rusewicz Pagorek. Tickets are $25 which includes a hot Polish buffet. The Passaic group is one of the oldest male independent choral groups still active in the United States. The Society was officially organized on March 10, 1910, in honor of the 100th anniversary of Fryderyk Chopin’s birth. The group’s repertoire includes Polish classical, folk and patriotic songs, Polskie Koleydy or Polish Christmas carols, a complete Latin mass, as well as American classic and barber shop songs. Singers are all volunteers and newcomers (you do not have to speak Polish) are welcomed to join. For tickets, call Artur Sroka at 973-777-2345 or John Bubzinski at 973-779-4310. More details about the group, its origins and other details at www.chopinsingingsociety.org.

Gwenn Karel Levine, the founder of the Paterson Youth Photography Project or PYPP, is one of the four recipients of this year’s Andrew Goodman Foundation Hidden Heroes award (www.andrewgoodman.org).

Given to “those ordinary people who do extraordinary things,” Levine founded PYPP in 2001, with the inaugural class offered in January 2002. Since then, Levine, the volunteer photographers and the students have utilized class space donated by the Paterson YMCA, which also offers a computer lab for digital photography. Students learn artistic and technical skills, build self confidence and allow professors to act as positive role models in the lives of growing children.

Though the 10 week course costs $25, most of the funding is derived from donations and grants, including one from the PCCHC. This year’s class work is currently on view in the Broadway & LRC Galleries at PCCC through Jan. 5. The exhibit will then go to the Paterson Library, Lambert Castle and the Ridgewood Library. For more info, contact Levine at 201-391-7663 or at gklevine@gmail.com.

“This award is special to me because of (the group) it’s coming from,” wrote Levine, pictured above with PYPP students in a file photo. “I was in college when these civil rights workers were murdered, and I remember members of my class going to Mississippi that year and participating in sit-ins at segregated restaurants.”
The New Jersey Foundation for Dance & Theatre Arts presents The Nutcracker on Dec. 11 at 7 pm and Dec. 12 at 7 pm. Performances are at Passaic County Technical Institute, 45 Reinhardt Rd, Wayne. Tickets are $20 and $25. Call 973-839-3022 or 973-839-4031 or write: New Jersey Foundation for Dance & Theatre Arts, c/o The King Centre for Performing Arts, 527 Ringwood Ave., Wanaque, NJ 07465.

One World, Different Music and Dance Day is Dec. 5 at 2 pm at the Clifton Public Library, Piaget Ave. Performers of Eastern European descent are invited to volunteer to appear for one performance. To participate call 973-253-9579.

The Paterson Holiday Parade of Lights rolls along Main St. on Dec. 12 (see below) from 6 to 8 pm. With floats, marchers and plenty of fanfare, it starts in South Paterson at Crooks and Dey St. and eventually meanders past a reviewing stand in front of City Hall on Market St. In and around City Hall Plaza, there is a Santa’s Village, an official tree lighting, as well as raffles, fireworks and free pictures with the jolly fellow. To participate in the snow or rain event, call 973-278-4019.

The Ringwood Farmers Market is becoming a year-round destination as vendors and entertainers will be at the Park & Ride until noon on Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 20.

Victorian Christmas at the Ringwood Manor: The Woman’s Club of West Milford and the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society invite guests to tour the lavish Victorian-era home on Dec., 5, 6, 12 and 13, from 11 am to 5 pm, or on Dec. 9. Admission is $7 for adults, $6 for seniors and $3 for children; proceeds help fund scholarships and restoration of the Ringwood Manor; by appointment only. To schedule a tour, call 973-853-7258.

The Clifton Arts Center Gallery will present Artists’ Interpretations, an exhibit and sale of watercolor art by the New Jersey Water Color Society. The exhibit is on display through Dec. 19. Call 973-472-5499 or visit cliftonnj.org.

Jim Ruban’s paintings are displayed at the Ringwood Public Library, 30 Cannici Dr., through Dec. 26. Call 973-962-6256.

Mi Tierra by artist Eduardo Guzmán Valverde is the first in a series of art exhibits organized by the City of Passaic, with support from the library board, to highlight the arts as well as the multi-cultural make-up of the city. The exhibit, at the Passaic Public Library, 195 Gregory Ave., continues through this month. To be considered for future exhibits, write: jgrubin@cityofpassaicnj.gov.
Andy Warhol: Through a Glass Starkly is an exhibit of Warhol’s photographic works, specifically his Polaroid shots and black-and-white silver gelatin prints at MSU’s George Segal Gallery, 1 Normal Ave. in Montclair. Leading Warhol scholar and author of *Andy Warhol’s Serial Photography*, William V. Ganis, PhD is the curator; through Dec. 12. Call 973-655-3382.

The History of Labor in Chicago is on view at the American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark through Dec. 31. The Botto House National Landmark is located at 83 Norwood St., Haledon. Hours of operation are Mon. through Fri., 9 am to 5 pm. Tours are offered Wed. through Sat. from 1 to 4 pm or by appointment. Call 973-595-7953 or go to www.labormuseum.org.

The 2010 Passaic County Film Festival is on April 17 at the offices of the Passaic County Economic Development Department, 930 Riverview Dr., Totowa. The Festival is a showcase for high school and university students as well as independent filmmakers who live, attend school or practice their art within the county. Film entries must be received by Jan. 29, 2010. For info: film@passaiccountynj.org call 973-569-4720 or go to www.passaiccountynj.org/film.

Writing Your Way Home, a poetry weekend intensive workshop led by Laura Boss and Maria Mazziotti Gillan will be held at St. Marguerite’s Retreat House in Mendham on Dec. 11, 12, and 13. The $375 fee includes room, meals and workshops. Info: mgillan@pccc.edu.

Abraham Lincoln: Man of Sorrow is the Wayne Public Library Lunchbox Learning Dec. 9 program. The President will be portrayed by Christian Johnson of the American Historical Theatre. Johnson has appeared at the White House and National Archives and is one of the premier sources on the President best known for his role as Commander in Chief during the Civil War. Refreshments will be provided at noon and the event begins at 12:30 pm. Admission is free. The library is at 461 Valley Rd., Wayne. For info, call 973-694-4272, ext. 5210.

To help ensure that everyone regardless of age or disability can participate fully in the diverse cultural programs offered, PCCHC asks that organizations listing submissions to *passaic county artsnews* provide accessibility services offered at each venue. Please refer to the chart above as a guide. Please call presenters/venues to confirm event and accessibility information. Services may be available without being noted in this listing.

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This newsletter is available in a large print edition. Please call 973-684-5444 to request your copy.