



ARTS COUNCIL OF GLEN ROCK CELEBRATES “LUCKY 7” ANNIVERSARY WITH HIGH-ENERGY MEMBERS MIXER AND MAJOR 2026 ANNOUNCEMENTS
Seven Years of Color, Community and Creativity

GLEN ROCK, N.J., February 24, 2026 – The Arts Council of Glen Rock (ACGR) transformed the Municipal Annex into a vibrant hub of creativity and connection on Thursday, February 19, for its annual “Members Mixer.” This year’s event was a special “Lucky 7” Asian-themed soiree, commemorating seven years of fostering a thriving arts scene in the borough while looking forward to a record-breaking year ahead.

The evening, attended by more than 40 members, served as both a celebration of past achievements and the organization’s official annual meeting. Event Chair **Stacey Gilmartin**, supported by a dedicated team of board members and volunteers, curated an atmosphere that emphasized the ACGR’s mission: to promote, support, and celebrate all forms of the arts by growing a vibrant and connected artistic community.

Empowering Local Artists

A highlight of the evening was the Micro Grants display organized by Board member and artist **John Blackman**. The exhibit showcased the work of eight 2024–25 grant recipients who utilized their \$250 awards to further their artistic development. In an exciting move for the new year, ACGR announced that it is doubling its impact, now offering up to **\$500 per grant** to member applicants.

Big Perks for 2026

ACGR President **Mona Milbrodt** delivered the standout news of the night: in appreciation of their continued support, **all dues-paying members will receive free admission to every ACGR event throughout 2026.**

"This 'Lucky 7' celebration is about where we’ve been, but more importantly, where we are going," said Milbrodt. "By offering free event admission to our members, we are removing barriers and inviting our core community to fully immerse themselves in the incredible lineup we have planned for this year."

A Glimpse at the 2026 Calendar

The mixer featured a "2025 Year in Review" slideshow and a preview of a jam-packed 2026 schedule, including:

- **March 21:** The History of Glen Rock Through Art – in partnership with the GR Historical Society
- **April 12:** Poetry Month exhibition at Catalano Coffee.
- **April 19:** Kick-off for Plein Air outdoor painting outings, monthly through October.
- **May:** Mural Painting and official "ribbon cutting" at the Glen Rock Municipal Pool. Project leader and artist Michele Keller, also a Board member, provided details and a new deadline for sketch submissions.
- **September 27:** The return of the annual Music Fest. Vice President Kate Brangaccio encouraged members to consider co-chairing this popular event.
- **October 10:** Argentine Jazz Guitarist Carlos Pavan performance for Hispanic History Month.
- **October 16:** The Thomas Edison Film Festival presented by the Arts Council. Another film event, spotlighting Glen Rock filmmakers, is being considered for earlier in the year.
- **November 28:** The "Holiday Hoopla" shopping extravaganza on Small Business Saturday.

Leadership & Governance

During the business portion of the evening, member **Angela Vila** conducted an official vote to approve the 2026 Executive Board:

- **President:** Mona Milbrodt
- **Vice President:** Kate Brangaccio
- **Treasurer:** Kathy Duggan
- **Secretary:** Lisa Hahn

For more information about ACGR, to join, and view images from events, visit artscouncilgr.org.

About the Arts Council of Glen Rock: The Arts Council of Glen Rock is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting, and celebrating all forms of the arts. Guided by the priorities of expanding opportunities and energizing community support, ACGR provides year-round artistic experiences for the Glen Rock community.

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