

Summary of Ideas for ACGR Event Calendar 2023-24



RECURRING ANNUAL EVENTS

1. Short Films Festival February
2. Poetry Month April
3. Parade July 4
4. Arts Fest Fall
5. 1 Enchanted Hallows October

ON SITE ART CREATION

Glass Blowing - Just outside of Morristown is a glass blowing studio - Morris County School of Glass. I've taken classes there before. As a team building or members event, we could arrange a group time to blow glass. It's great fun.

Leaf, Trunk & Trail - Would take place in the Arboretum and is for children and senior citizens. (I know there was a nature sketching program for artists last year). For children: we could charge a small fee and provide sketchpads & pencils, We could put our logo on the sketchpads with a sticker. For seniors - we would lend materials & they would be returned at end of event. Arboretum could provide a short educational workshop/talk re the changing of the seasons.

Outdoor Music Park Space - Create an outdoor instrument installation through Free Notes Harmony Park--similar to what Ridgewood did near the Stable, near Ridgewood Skate Park. Location could be Demarest Park, or Wilde Park. Host an opening event for the community. Installations include outdoor, weather-resistant musical instruments (xylophones, drums, chimes) that can be used by children or adults for an outdoor musical experience that encourages anyone (musician or not) to play music!

Plein Air Sunday Mornings - Open to all levels of artistic talent. Bring your easel or drawing board, and artistic materials and create with other Glen Rock artists from set locations in Glen Rock Plein Air Painting is drawing in the landscape, the open air, to paint light and its changing, ephemeral qualities.

AUCTIONS/FUNDRAISING (showcasing local artists' talent)

Birdhouse Exhibition - revisited idea from 2021 - "Spring is For the Birds" or "Tweet Dreams" (are made of these!) - Invite talented local artists to design a birdhouse. Entries (juried?) will be put on display at opening event and then available to view online where people can bid on them. (Inspired by an event sponsored by The Peconic Land Trust <https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/2nd-annual-art-and-nature-take-flight>)

Box Art – Auction - "Twinking (designing) Outside the Box" Local artists answer the call to create memorable boxes (from donated cigar boxes or wine boxes) for a live auction event. Proceeds - to benefit an agreed-upon local charity or cause - would be split with ACGR and possibly the artist. (Inspired by a renowned local event held every year at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in East Hampton.)

Panther Pride - revisited idea from 2021 - Glen Rock artist-painted sculptures of panthers placed around our town. Small (tabletop sized) and made of fiberglass (lightweight). Artists/creators would sign-up and purchase the panther from ACGR and paint their themes on the panther sculptures. The panthers would appear overnight in a variety of locations around town (stores, public spaces). Panthers could be auctioned off with proceeds going to charities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

RECEPTIONS/PARTIES/OPENINGS

Artsy Affairs at the Alcove - Members are welcome to get a first glimpse at our Alcove Artwork by attending a reception - complete with music, drinks and cocktail food. Helps promote ACGR and its community engagement efforts while making paid members feel special. Provides an opportunity to show how crappy the rest of the alcove all looks - and may encourage donations of money or labor to improve the surface and make it more aesthetically pleasing.

December Seasonal Holiday Party - "1st Annual 'Naughty or Nice' Party - A Not-So-Silent Night" Come dressed up and ready to eat, drink, be merry and mingle and take part! Join the festivities (to be explained) and get to know your fellow Arts Council Members! Music included - a local pianist (or other musician) provides the ambiance. *(Based on fond memories of my sister-in-law's annual Holiday Party that she and my brother-in-law would host in their now former Ridgewood home every December all through the 1990's and early 2000's.)*

LANDLORDS/LOCAL BUSINESSES

Pop-Up-Art Space - Contact the landlords of empty retail spaces in town and partner on creating a Pop-Up-Art space - rotating exhibits, exhibit and retail. Need to flush out the details, but I think it is a worthy pursuit! Could bring non-residents to GR, if it's a special 3-day event, we could partner with GR Inn, Stone & Rail, etc.

Windows of Opportunity - Window painting - with a theme

Winter is Coming - Window painting - White winter birch trees - on 'black windows' (old Sasha storefront - several windows), Rock Sushi and Glen Rock Smiles dental office) - using white and black paint for shading - create a forest of birch trees - perhaps add a cardinal for color but keep all windows uniform.

GIVING BACK/GLEN ROCK PROUD

Community Quilt & Folk Art - Town residents create a community quilt - a piece of folk art. Size of quilt would need to be determined, number of squares. Wouldn't have enough squares for every household but we can figure out how to best distribute the squares equitably. Instructions would be provided for decorating the square. The quilt could be given to council as a gift & be displayed in Council chambers. Can tie this into other Folk Art events/exhibits/displays.

Grad Ball Keepsake or Memoir or Remembrance - The Grad Ball has existed since 1959! Create one historical picture for each year in some kind of exhibition. Can complement another ACGR event like a membership night or membership drive or a bigger event – at a concert or other GRHS event – and showcase the pictures (maybe a joint venture with another group.)

Recycled Art Project - As seen in West Jersey, Luna Parc had an outdoor Eiffel Tower made from trophies. I see something like this in our town in a spot that needs a lift. Maybe the park by the post office, maybe the recycling center or somewhere else in town.

Rock Road Summer Banner Contest – revised/revisited idea from 2021 - Student artists submit artwork to be chosen for Rock road summer street banner contest (see [image](#), based on Fair Lawn activity)

Trim the Tracks - Hang clear white 'holiday string lights' on the trees and station house at Main Line and Boro Hall train stations to welcome home residents and visitors during the dreary winter months.

Watering Can Flowing “Paint” Mural – (With ACGR Window Committee oversight), create a wall sculpture – actual watering cans or aluminum paint cans with flowing fabric or similar material in various colors to represent a palette of colors. The "paint" would be sprinkling out of the cans (like water) above a beautiful mural. The "cans" and mural would be placed on a wall in a public location such as the GR Senior Center room, also used by multiple GR groups. We can request mural concepts from ACGR artists, with the selected concept being painted by the winning artist – with GR Seniors invited to help “paint” the mural (group event).

ARTIST ENGAGEMENT – (Members preferred)

Artist Small Talks - Take a journey through the mind of an artist and learn about how they make their work. Casual meeting spots will be chosen where artists can meet up, speak about their art style, demonstrate the process, medium, and what inspires them to create. Attendees can ask questions at these events, meet other like-minded artists and even collaborate about art making.

Lemonade Social / Coffee Hour - Have ACGR members get together and chat. Maybe have one member give a presentation about what they do or give a demo.

Online Exhibits/Performances - "Performance (or Exhibit) in a Box" - Artists each could share their screen via Zoom and talk about some of the pieces they have produced. Fine art, crafts, poetry, performance, music etc. Production would be up to the artist. No venue required.

Passaic County Arts Center Tour – Tour this wonderful new arts center in Hawthorne and view their current shows with either artists or the curator. We can rent a wonderful space upstairs for \$35 to have a social hour afterward. I've gone there many times and taken classes there.

James Rose Center for Landscape Architectural Research and Design Tour - Center was formerly his Ridgewood home, known as a landmark of Modern design. Two options: 1) Docent tour for \$10/person – Arts Council pays \$5, and member pays \$5 – so a discount for the members. 2) Tour with author Dean Cardasis who has written articles and a book about Rose and his work. Cost is \$25/person. Not sure if we could "sell" that one to the membership.

PERFORMANCE ART

Acoustic Crawl - revisited idea from 2021 - Musicians play on their porches/front lawns. Tour starts at a restaurant/bar for drinks and getting maps to walk the circuit.

Glen Rock's Got Talent! - revisited idea from 2021 - Community talent show - for the first year it could be adults only, or children only. Or, if feeling ambitious a two-hour show - first hour is child performers, second hour adult performers. A good, old-fashioned variety show! Need to work out the details regarding voting for a winner.

Live Musicians Showcase - Live music hosting local musicians of all genres. Show will be open to both solo and full band acts.

Summer Concert Series – Weekly event in Wilde Park during July and August. Since GR parks don't have a band shell, could use a portable stage provided by Bergen County Dept. of Parks. Bands are typically North Jersey tribute bands with large followings (town businesses gets potential customers), but we might be able to include some GR-area bands to keep costs reasonable. \$3,000 per two hours for top tribute bands that cover Eagles, Journey, Springsteen and Chicago, for example.