

# ONNEWYEAR'S EVE... THE TOWN BECOMES A STAGE



50+ PERFORMANCES, FILM FESTIVAL, MIDNIGHT COUNTDOWN & MORE IN **DOWNTOWN** 

MORRISTOWN!

FirstNightMorris.com

**ADMISSION SALES OUTLET** 



Call **973-539-8008** or online at **FirstNightMorris.com** 

## **ABOUT FIRST NIGHT® MORRIS COUNTY**

#### **WHAT IS FIRST NIGHT®?**

Beginning in 1992, First Night® Morris County is now the LARGEST First Night® in New Jersey. Join your friends and neighbors for our 30th year of ringing in the New Year with an unmatched array of performances! First Night Morris County 2022 is the biggest and brightest New Year's Eve celebration in New Jersey, providing a magnificent family-friendly, substance and alcohol-free celebration in the heart of Morristown. Our stellar program features 50+ performances at 15 Venues (13 In-Person, 1 Streaming, and 1 On-Demand), and 40+ on-demand films. Events include theatre, music (rock, jazz, classical, etc.), visual arts, film festival, world cultures, children's programs and so much more. The program concludes with the new Midnight Countdown to welcome in the New Year.

Your First Night Morris County admission button gives you access to innovative, diverse and high-quality performances ideal for participants of all ages. In-person venues are within close walking distance of one another and virtual programs are accessible through our mobile app or website. For one affordable price, you and your friends and family will enjoy unlimited access to all of our spectacular performances in-person or on-demand.

#### **OUR MISSION**

First Night® Morris County, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, seeks to foster the public's appreciation of visual and performing arts through an innovative, diverse, and high-quality New Year's Eve program which offers the community a shared cultural experience that is accessible and affordable to all with Year Round Community Development Thru FNM365.



#### WHAT IS FNM365®?

FNM365 is a Year-Round Community Development Program, dedicated to bringing the community together, not only for New Year's Eve but all 365 days of the year. The FNM365® motto is "Together We Can." FNM365® in conjunction with First Night Morris County Partners, Supporters, Volunteers, Patrons,

and Community Members provide the following programs: Advisory Board, Artist Entrepreneurship, Community Reinvestment Program (CRP), STEM Leadership Internship and Reading to a Better Future.

#### **WHO ORGANIZES FIRST NIGHT?**

First Night® Morris County is run by a volunteer Board of Trustees and 6 Committees. Board and/or Committee Members come from a variety of backgrounds and work year-round to support the mission of First Night® Morris County.

# Making a Difference!

First Night Morris County & Year-Round Impact thru FNM365

Support Your Community • Community Reinvestment Program
STEM Leadership Internship • Reading To A Better Future
2nd Annual Arts & Innovation Summit,
"Arts & Technology...The Fusion on Imagination & Innovation"



## ADMISSION PRICING

Now - December 21 \$25 (single) /

\$90 (4-pack)

**December 22 - 31** \$30 (single) / \$95 (4-pack)

Children 4 and under admitted free.

#### WHERE CAN I PURCHASE BUTTONS (TICKETS)?

Buttons admit attendees to First Night® performances. Prior to December 31, tickets (to be exchanged in person for buttons starting December 1, 2021) can be purchased online at FirstNightMorris.com or from the Mayo Performing Arts Center (MPAC) by phone (973-539-8008) or at the Box Office located at 100 South Street in Morristown. For button pick-up please visit FirstNightMorris.com for details.

#### ONLINE SALES WILL END ON DECEMBER 31 AT 11:59 AM.

Tickets (Buttons) sales will be sold at the event through the Mayo Box Office until 10 PM and at Will Call (Morristown Library) from 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

A limited amount of tickets (buttons) will be on sale at the Hyatt Regency Morristown by the Morris Ballroom (Venue 12) from 5 PM to 9 PM.

# WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TICKET AND A BUTTON?

Printed tickets distributed by MPAC for online orders can be exchanged for buttons on the night of the event at any First Night® location. Buttons are provided at the time of all other admission transactions, including those at Will Call.

# WHERE CAN I PICK UP TICKETS I ORDERED ONLINE AFTER DECEMBER 19?

The RECEIPT you printed when you ordered your tickets online IS NOT SUFFICIENT for entry to the venues. You must present that receipt at Will Call to pick up your buttons. Will Call will be located at MPAC until 3:30 p.m. on the 31st. After that time, Will Call will be located at the Morristown Library, directly across the street from MPAC.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

\*Performance access is limited by seating capacity. All attendees ages 12+ attending a performance are required to show proof of full vaccination or a recent negative COVID-19 Test taken within 48 hours of the event start time. Masks are required to be worn inside the venue except while briefly consuming concessions.

\*\*On-Demand and Streaming Access is available through our App for Apple and Android Devices or via our website.

\*\*\*Program is subject to change; please visit FirstNightMorris.com for the most up to date information.

## **PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY**



Call 973-539-8008 or online at FirstNightMorris.com

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

# A special message to all our supporters and patrons:

First Night Morris County Board of Trustees and Advisory Board welcome you to First Night Morris 2022, our 30th year of bringing the arts to downtown Morristown.

After a year of being separated and offering our program virtually, we are grateful to be able to gather as a community again to celebrate the New Year in a safe, family-friendly environment. This year we return to live performances, with some familiar faces and some new performers. Our experience from the prior year allows us to conveniently stream a portion of our program online for patrons who are less comfortable in group gatherings and/or prefer to attend virtually.

In partnership with the First Night Film Festival, First Contact Films will be showing films from various creative and talented independent film makers across five screens. In addition, First Night Morris 2022 will be hosting over 50+ performances, 40+ on-demand films, and 100+ artists, all of this being available for one affordable admission.

As always, we are proud of the accomplishments of our year-round community empowerment efforts from FNM365. Our student interns continue to work hard to support this event, while learning valuable skills for their future in the workforce. Reading to a Better Future, our reading a literacy program, and the Community Relationship Partnership continues to grow as a valued FNM365 program.

At this time, we would like to formally invite you to join us for our Second Arts and Innovation Summit...The Fusion of Imagination & Innovation, in February, where we bring the business and the arts community together in a virtual program, focusing on the roles of Arts and Technology. This interactive event will consist of panel and thought leadership discussions.

With our partners, The Mayo Performing Arts Center and Morris Arts, along with sponsors and patrons, we invite you to relax and enjoy each other's company as you experience this event. We thank all those who have contributed to our success over the past 29 years.

Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to First Night Morris and a Happy New Year to all!

Wentsh

Walter Deutsch, Chairman, First Night Morris County

# FIRST NIGHT® MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Walter Deutsch, Chair

Richard Polk, Treasurer

Mark Boutros • Jocelyn Cornine • Quincy Chau Michael Schmidt • AJ Watts

President: Craig Schlosser

Artistic Advisor: Dr. Lynn L. Siebert, Morris Arts

Film Festival Director: Mark Boutros

# FIRST NIGHT® MORRIS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD

Our Advisory Board is comprised of a diverse group of dedicated community members who share insights and feedback regarding First Night Morris County and oversee our year-round initiative, FNM365. These individuals meet 2 times a year to help shape the First Night experience.

#### **Manal Abeskaron**

Peapack-Gladstone Bank

#### **Mary Adelman**

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#### **Jane Armstrong**

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#### **Ravi Badge**

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#### **Meghan Hunscher**

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First Night Morris County, Former Chair

#### Vincent E. Pungello, Jr.

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#### **Denise Schmidt**

County College of Morris

#### **Craig Schlosser**

President, First Night Morris County

#### **Michael Schmidt**

Advisory Board Co-Chair & Former Chair, First Night Morris County

#### Dr. Lynn L. Siebert

Morris Arts

#### **Mark Spaldo**

Retired, Boy Scouts of America

#### **Robert Tobias**

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#### P.J. Thurkauf

The UPS Store of Morristown & Morristown Rotary Club

#### **Thomas Woodard**

Atlantic Health

#### **Jenifer Wehring**

Morristown Partnership

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## **CATEGORY / COLOR REPRESENTATION**

on artist profiles and schedule



.

THEATER



WORLD CULTURES



MUSIC



**VISUAL ARTS** 

#### **FILM FESTIVAL**



ALL AGES



13 YEAR-OLD OR OLDER AUDIENCES



ADULT &
ADULT
17 YEAR-OLD
OR OLDER
AUDIENCES



#### **Animation Series 1**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 3: 94 seats, 6:00pm - 6:50pm

Thomas Edison Films brings us animated films about change: changes in a butterfly, changes in life, changes in how we teach children, and changes forced on us by outside influences.



## Art Upstairs Gallery

Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St., 6:00pm - 11:30pm

"Are We There Yet?" is a multidisciplined art display presented by the New Jersey Art Association. The exhibit includes oils, watercolors, pastels,



sculptures, photography, and multi-medium works from its juried show. The exhibition also features the Janaan Webber Award recipient. The award is named in honor of the original curator of the Mayo Performing Art Center (MPAC) galleries.

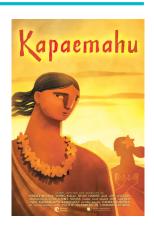


#### **Animation Series 2**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

**Venue 3:** 94 seats,7:10pm - 8:00pm

Growing and becoming in charge can be difficult for children and adults, and spirits too. Miracles do happen and the human connection to the past provides encouragement for the future in this Thomas Edison Film Festival Selection.



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# Atrium Gallery Exhibit: The Color of Life

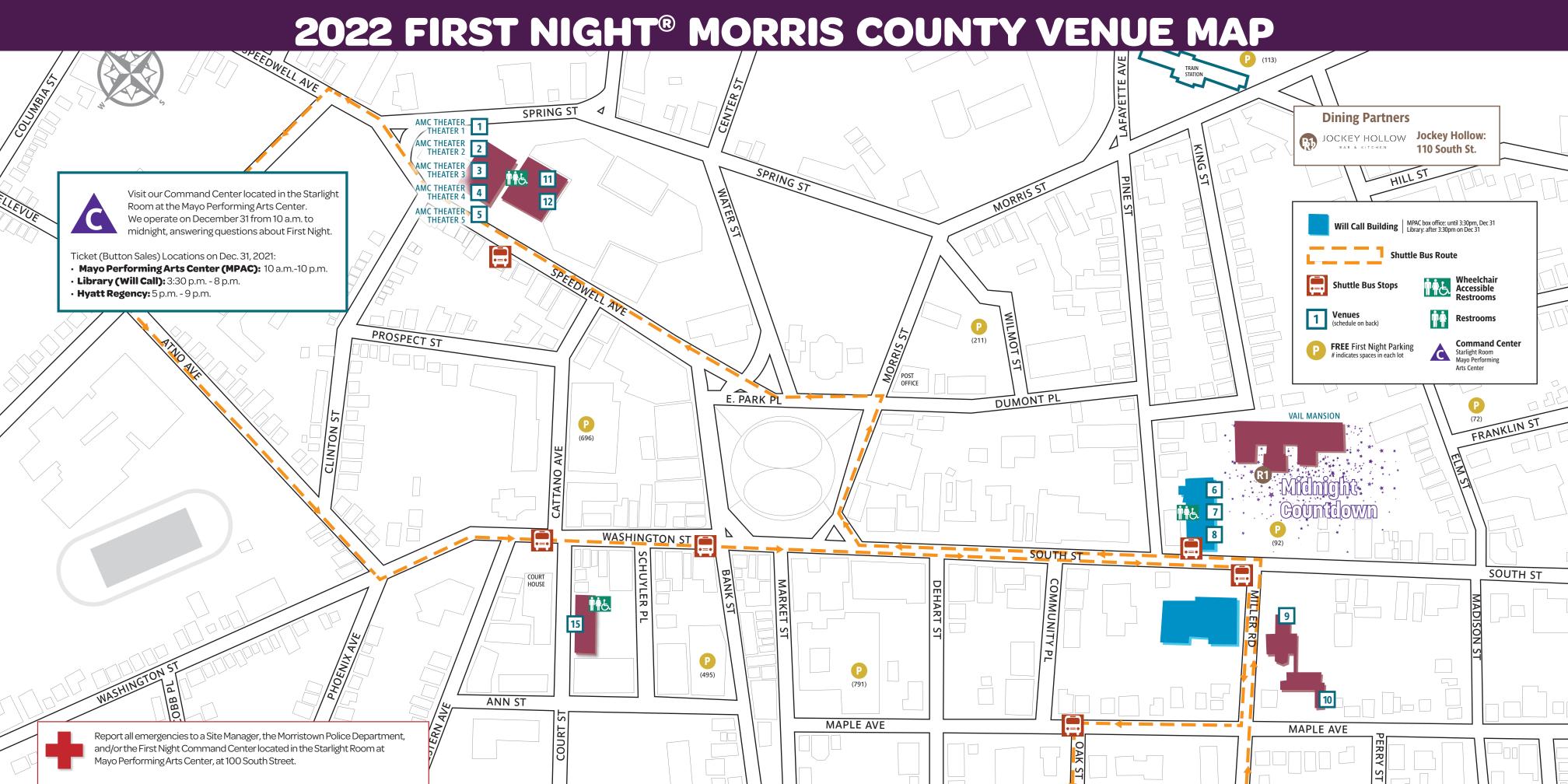
County Admin. Bldg. Atrium Gallery (Floors 2-5), 10 Court St., 4:00pm - 11:30pm

Curated by Dr. Lynn Siebert of Morris Arts, The Color of Life features six gifted artists whose works utilize oils, alcohol ink, digital media, soft sculpture, acrylics, printmaking and photographic techniques – providing imagery ranging from the

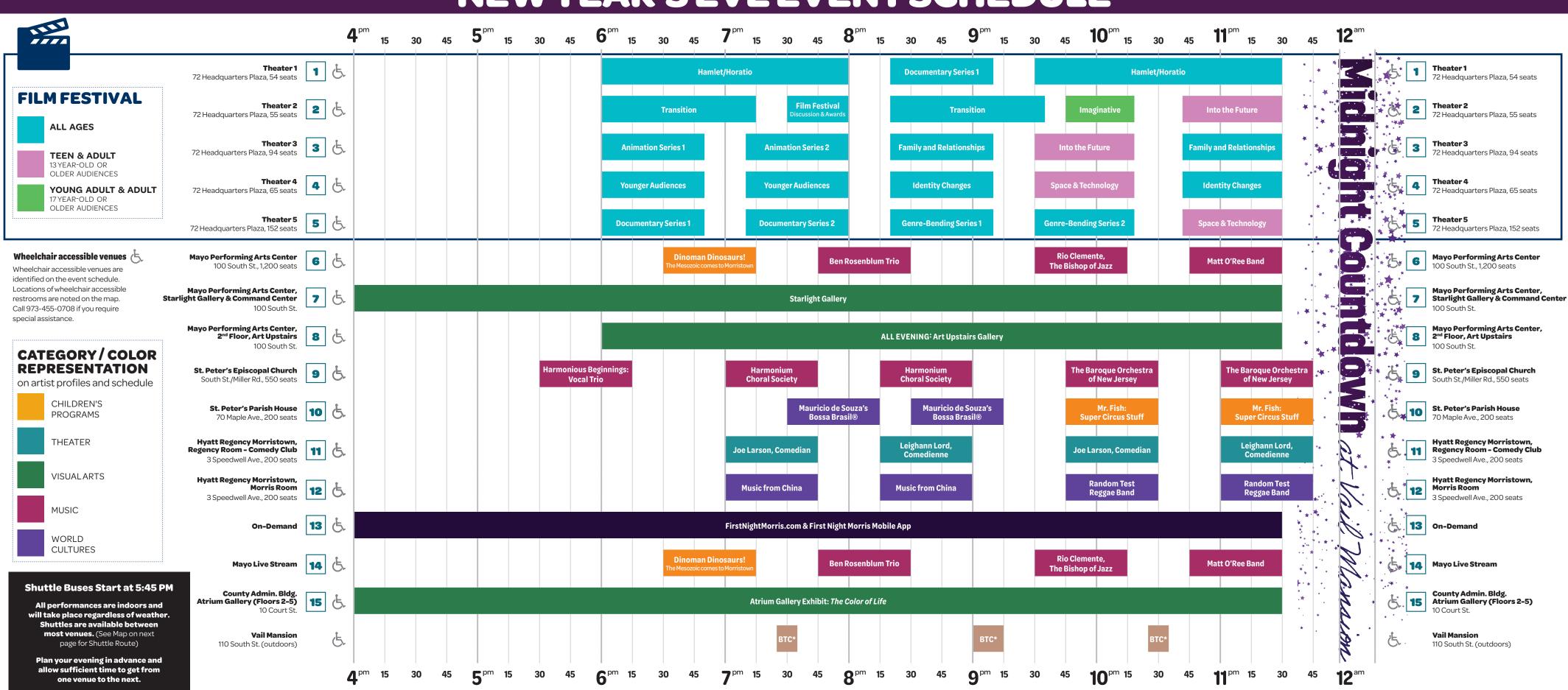


abstract to the naturalistic – to embody the theme, *The Color of Life*.

The concept behind the exhibit is to not only provide gifted artists with the opportunity to showcase the range of their talents but also to help restore a sense of life and excitement for viewers.



# NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT SCHEDULE



\*BTC = Behind the Curtain

#### **Ben Rosenblum Trio**

Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St., 1,200 seats, 7:45pm - 8:30pm

Award-winning jazz pianist and accordionist Ben Rosenblum has been described as an "impressive talent" (All About Jazz), who "caresses [the music] with...reverence..." (Downbeat Magazine). Since the release of his debut album, Instead (4 stars,



Downbeat), Rosenblum has toured extensively with his trio and sextet around the world, and he was a soloist at Carnegie Hall's Stern-Perelman Auditorium. In 2020, his ensemble, the Nebula Project, was voted runner-up for Best New Artist in JazzTimes' Readers' Poll.



#### **Documentary Series 1**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 5: 152 seats, 6:00pm - 6:50pm Venue 1: 54 seats, 8:20pm - 9:10pm

Travel with these film makers to the inner city. The streets of New York, the subway lost and found below, the street art that comments on social issues, and the role of working women are all presented in this Thomas Edison Film Festival segment.





#### **Documentary Series 2**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 5: 152 seats, 7:10pm - 9:00pm

Courtesy of the Thomas Edison Film Festival Documentary Series 2 focuses on children, education, and work. Teaching literacy in the South to enable voter registration, the challenges of being a single parent, the use of children in the circus, and our ability to rethink our relationship with animals are all topics presented here.







#### **Family and Relationships**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 3: 94 seats,

8:20pm - 9:10pm, 10:40pm - 11:30pm

All relationships are complicated, whether they are based in human contact, spirited feelings associated with the deceased, or one that is programmed into a non-life entity to create emotional attachment.





## Film Festival Discussion & Awards

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 2: 55 seats, 7:30pm - 8:00pm

Join First Night Morris County Film Festival Director and Board Member, Mark Boutros, for an interactive discussion regarding this year's Film Festival. During the program, Mark will announce the First Night Morris County 2022 Film Festival winners, and share insight on the festival's future direction.





#### **Genre-Bending Series 1**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 5: 152 seats, 8:20pm - 9:10pm

The human nature of being seen and heard and the psychological boundaries are tested. Whether it is being connected with people, objects, or the desire for affection and recognition, we all want to be valued. This Film Block is courtesy of the Thomas Edison Film Festival.





#### **Dinoman Dinosaurs! The Mesozoic** comes to Morristown

Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St., 1,200 seats, 6:30pm - 7:15pm

Bob Lisaius (Dinoman) has presented the Dinoman Science Series to over a million audience members from Malibu, California to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and once again First Night! With magic,



merry mayhem, and magnificent props, the audience travels through the Mesozoic era. "Dinoman Dinosaurs!" has garnered a "Best Bet" from the LA Times, was cited in the Wall Street Journal, and appeared at Boston's First Night seven times! This event is fun and educational for all ages!



#### **Genre-Bending Series 2**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 5: 152 seats, 9:30pm - 10:20pm

Dreams are important and the juxtaposition of time, space, imaginations, and reality are all a part of these films. Visit Iceland, the frozen land of Finland, and magical villages and towns that are part of this Thomas Edison Film Festival selection.



#### Hamlet/Horatio

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 1:54 seats,

6:00pm - 8:00pm & 9:30pm - 11:30pm

The film begins at the instant of Hamlet's death. Hamlet watches his life flash before him while his soul transcends all earthly conflict in his final moments. Hamlet/Horatio is from the perspective of Hamlet's confidante, Horatio. To fulfill his promise to a dying Hamlet, Horatio takes on the role of the film's director to expose the corruption permeating throughout the court in Denmark.



#### **Imaginative**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 2: 55 seats, 9:45pm - 10:20pm

What if you could change your offspring because of a fatal flaw, would you? Learn about the beginning of an idea, or how monsters deal with their psychological flaws to be a better "person".



#### **Harmonious Beginnings: Vocal Trio**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, South Street / Miller Road, 550 seats, 5:30pm - 6:15pm

Harmonious Beginnings features the powerful vocal talents of three dynamic performers: Ted Chletsos, Lauren D'Imperio and Stephen Lasher. Their collaboration was forged in a production of DeBryun's The Passion of Our Lord According to St. John. Harmonious Beginnings delves into an array

of Sacred, Broadway, Opera and Americana with solo performances, duets and classic presentations of three-part vocal harmony. Joining the trio onstage is accomplished pianist, Kristin Dabaghian.



Into the Future

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 3: 94 seats, 9:30pm - 10:20pm Venue 2: 94 seats, 10:40pm - 11:30pm

Film makers specialize in "What ifs?". Is it good to be able to travel into the future? Can my communication assistant alter what I see and hear without me knowing? And what would an alien team think about us if they were sent here to study our society. See and find out.





#### **Harmonium Choral Society**

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, South Street / Miller Road, 550 seats, 7:00pm - 7:45pm & 8:15pm - 9:00pm

Harmonium's richly diverse programming and high artistic level has something for

everyone. Based in Morris County, it is one of New Jersey's leading choral arts organizations. It has been recognized for its musical excellence and innovative programming and has commissioned and premiered works by Sarah Rimkus, Dale Trumbore, Matthew Harris, Elliot Z. Levine, Harmonium's composers-in-residence Martin Sedek and Mark Miller, and more! Allow the inspired direction of Dr. Anne Matlack dazzle you this New Year's Eve!



#### Joe Larson, Comedian

Hyatt Regency Room (Comedy Club), 3 Speedwell Ave., 200 seats, 7:00pm - 7:45pm & 9:45pm - 10:30pm

Joe Larson was enthusiastic about comedy from an early age, but he began to pursue it as a career at the age of 20 when he won "College Comedian of the Year" at The Las Vegas Comedy Festival.



He was a finalist in both the prestigious Johnny Carson Great American Comedy Festival and the Boston Comedy Festival, and he has also made multiple appearances on television, including on The Bob & Tom Show.

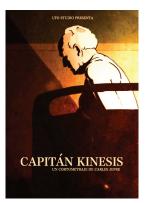


#### **Identity Changes**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 4: 65 seats, 8:20pm - 9:10pm & 10:40pm - 11:30pm

Some changes are harder than others. Some involve simply new IDs, some involve a change of attitude, some are contrived, and others are not based upon reality.





#### Leighann Lord, Comedienne

Hyatt Regency Room (Comedy Club), 3 Speedwell Ave., 200 seats, 8:15pm - 9:00pm & 11:00pm - 11:45pm

Inspired by the brilliance of George Carlin, the smooth jazz style of Franklyn Ajaye, and the elegance of Rita Rudner, Leighann has crafted her own unique brand of Thinking Cap Comedy.



Leighann Lord's "heads up humor" is stand-up comedy at its finest. Leighann received the NYC Black Comedy Award for "The Most Thought Provoking Black Female Comic" and has appeared on countless stand-up comedy shows! An enjoyable comedy experience for all.



## Mauricio de Souza's Bossa Brasil®

St. Peter's Parish House. 70 Maple Ave., 200 seats, 7:30pm - 8:00pm & 8:30pm - 9:15pm

Born in Brasília, Brazil, Maurício de Souza is a professional drummer, specializing in

Brazilian jazz. De Souza directs and performs with his group, Bossa Brasil®. The group's repertoire features Bossa Nova classics, other popular types of Brazilian music, and De Souza's compositions. Bossa Brasil® has previously performed at First Night Morris and has also performed at Blue Note, NJPAC, and Festival International de Quebec among others, and De Souza has also released four commercial albums.



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#### **Random Test Reggae Band**

Hyatt Morris Room, 3 Speedwell Ave., 175 seats, 9:45pm - 10:30pm & 11:00pm - 11:45pm

Rio Clemente, "The Bishop of Jazz" Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St.,

A native of Morristown, New Jersey, Rio Clemente

has performed at the White House representing

the United States Coast Guard and all Auxiliaries.

He was honored to be selected as Auxiliarist of

1,200 seats, 9:30pm - 10:15pm

Drawing members from throughout the Caribbean, this band has been rocking the NJ Shore with authentic Reggae and Calypso for more than a decade. Paying tribute to pioneers in Reggae and



Soca music, Random Test has graced stages such as The State Theatre (New Brunswick), the Patriot Theatre (at the Trenton War Memorial), the Stone Pony and beyond. Come and enjoy the joyous music that the Caribbean has to offer.

#### **Matt O'Ree Band**

Mayo Performing Arts Center, 100 South St.,1,200 seats, 10:45pm - 11:30pm

Former guitarist for Bon Jovi, NY/NJ Blues Hall of Fame inductee, and crowned King Of The Blues by BB King himself, Matt O'Ree has been a driving force in the blues/rock music scene for the last twenty years, garnering the attention of artists like



Bruce Springsteen, David Bryan (member of Bon Jovi), and many others, all of whom volunteered to perform on the band's album, Brotherhood. The band's newest addition and backup singer, Eryn, is an award-winning artist and songwriter in her own right.



the Year for exemplary service from Sector New York, United States Coast Guard. He has performed at the United Nations. He continually performs for all branches of our US Armed Forces, and has performed from coast to coast for Senators, Governors, Mayors, and other dignitaries.



#### **Music from China**

Hyatt Morris Room, 3 Speedwell Ave., 175 seats, 7:00pm - 7:45pm & 8:15pm - 9:00pm

Music From China is a NY-based chamber ensemble performing traditional and contemporary Chinese music on folk and Western instruments. The ensemble's programs include



concert hall performances, school residencies, touring, arts in education, music commissioning, instruction, and youth and college level Chinese music ensemble training.



## **Space & Technology**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 4: 65 seats, 9:30pm - 10:20pm Venue 5: 152 seats, 10:40pm - 11:30pm

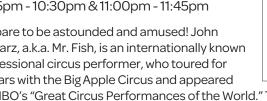
What does the future hold?...Travel through space to create a new colony, the rise of the robot world, or a change of attitude towards each other are all considered in this three-film set.



#### Mr. Fish: Super Circus Stuff

St. Peter's Parish House, 70 Maple Ave., 200 seats, 9:45pm - 10:30pm & 11:00pm - 11:45pm

Prepare to be astounded and amused! John Lepiarz, a.k.a. Mr. Fish, is an internationally known professional circus performer, who toured for 7 years with the Big Apple Circus and appeared



on HBO's "Great Circus Performances of the World." This fast-paced family friendly event features pure entertainment pleasure, fun circus routines, and is full of audience participation! Acts feature juggling, balancing, plate spinning, boomerangs, bubbles and more!





#### Begins & 11:55 p.m.

Welcome in the New Year with the First Night Morris County 2022 Midnight Countdown by joining us in-person or virtually as we bring in the New Year \* with a digital countdown, a 30-year anniversary tribute and a chance to join in as we sing the New Year's classic, Auld Lang Syne.

#### **Starlight Gallery Featured Artist Mike Dziomba**

Mayo Performing Arts Center, Starlight Gallery, 100 South St., 4:00pm - 11:30pm

Mike Dziomba is an acrylic painter whose works range from classic landscape to tongue-in-cheek wordplay. A self-taught artist, Mike draws from his 30 years plus tenure in the rat race of corporate America. He has recently begun a series of surreal and wordplay paintings that he hopes will bring a smile to people's faces.



# THANK YOU TO OUR **DEDICATED SPONSORS**

#### **FEATURED SUPPORTERS**





























**SUPPORTERS** 





The MCJ Amelior Foundation



















































AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 4: 65 seats, 6:00pm - 6:50pm & 7:10pm - 8:00pm

We bring you some talented animated film makers. Remember Saturday morning cartoons and the social and political undertones? The stories presented here will deal with bullying, paying it forward, nuclear arsenals, and simply magic in a format for young and old.



















App Store

**On-Demand and Livestream** available through the First Night® Morris App!



#### **The Baroque Orchestra** of New Jersey

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, South Street / Miller Road, 550 seats, 9:45pm-10:30pm& 11:00pm - 11:45pm

Celebrate the New Year with the award-winning Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey, under the direction

of Dr. Robert W. Butts, conductor and artistic director, as the orchestra explores great orchestral music of all periods, from the 17th through the 21st centuries.



#### **Transition**

AMC Theaters, 72 Headquarters Plaza

Venue 2:55 seats,

6:00pm - 7:15pm & 8:20pm - 9:35pm

A female city doctor goes on her annual visit to the family village to retrieve her daughter and administer medical care to the villagers. A visually stunning journal of the differences between city and rural life in the Taiga of Mongolia.



( Sees Wildeast )