

# Life as an Artist in Fairfield County

It started in Stamford in the sixth grade. My art teacher fished out my linoleum block print I had tossed in the garbage and submitted it to a scholastic art competition. Seeing my work on display awakened my love of art. Fast forward to high school and taking the train into the Art Students League in New York City every Saturday, art college followed, then working in the design, marketing, and communications fields. Like the House of Medici the 14th-century banking family that created an environment where arts flourished, Fairfield County's business community has been my patron of the arts. As a result, I've supported myself through my creativity.

C.R. Gibson gave me my first job as a designer in Norwalk. My boss was a mentor. He saw the transferrable skills I had and taught me how to apply fine art dexterity to the graphic design world. I've since traversed the worlds of fine and commercial art. Fairfield County has offered me an array of opportunities to expand my work in corporate, creative and academic environments. It has also been fertile ground for me to launch three entrepreneurial businesses.

I've always viewed my fine art as a business, which is an important piece of the mosaic of life as an artist. The ways I market myself and my work, and the ways I conduct the commerce side of my trade are just as important as the creative applications. Starting my own graphic design firm was made possible by independent companies willing to give opportunities to local designers. The open-mindedness of Fairfield County then helped me start my next business, The Center for Creativity and Wellness. Once my son was born I closed it on a high note and pursued writing and consulting. These adventures have led me here, to the nonprofit world as the director of communications for Pequot Library.

As an artist I've received grants, awards and exhibited original prints, photographs and paintings in galleries and museums. The joy of seeing my work on display has never left me and neither have the lessons I've been taught from the people and businesses of Fairfield County.

Thank you to all the Medicis of Fairfield County. As the community uplifts the artists, the artists, in turn, uplift the community and each other.



**Adair Wilson Heitmann, artist  
Member, Cultural Alliance  
of Fairfield County**

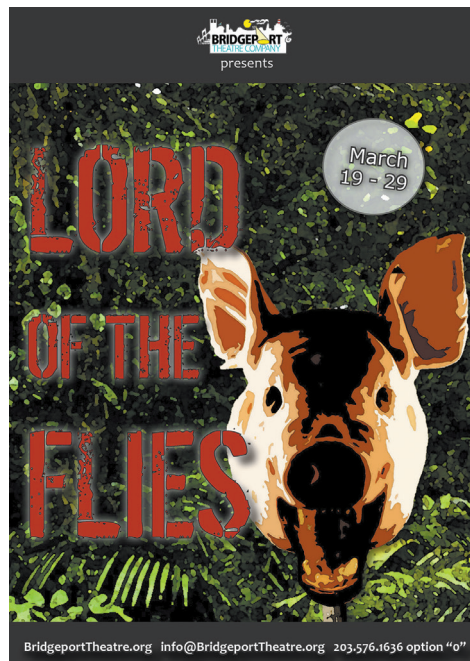
The mission of the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County is to support cultural organizations, artists and creative businesses by providing promotion, services and advocacy.

For more information, visit [CulturalAllianceFC.org](http://CulturalAllianceFC.org) or email [infoCulturalAllianceFC.org](mailto:infoCulturalAllianceFC.org) or call 256-2329. For events lists, visit [FCBuzz.org](http://FCBuzz.org).



## Bridgeport Theatre Company Presents 'Lord of the Flies'

Bridgeport Theatre Company continues its fifth season with the stage adaptation of the best-selling novel, "Lord of the Flies," with alternating female and male casts running in repertory. The show runs March 19-29 at the Downtown Cabaret Theatre, 263 Golden Hill St., Bridgeport. Under the artistic direction of Eli Newsom, Bridgeport Theatre Company operates in residence and presents the Community Theatre Series for the Downtown Cabaret Theatre. "Lord of the Flies" is a 1954 dystopian novel by Nobel Prize-winning English author William Golding about a group of boys stuck on an uninhabited island who try to govern themselves with disastrous results. Its stances on the already controversial subjects of human nature and individual welfare versus the common good earned it a spot on Time magazine's list of the 100 best English-language novels.



The performance schedule will be as follows for March 19-29: Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.: March 19 (boys), 20 (girls), 21 (boys), 26 (girls), 27 (boys), 28 (girls). Sundays at 5:30 p.m.: March 22 (girls) and 29 (boys). Seating begins 30-45 minutes before showtime, and an attended parking lot is available across from the theater on Golden Hill Street.

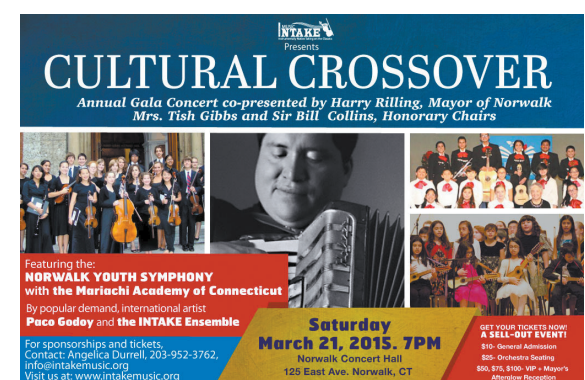
Tickets are \$23 for adults and \$18 for seniors and students. Concessions will be available for purchase throughout each performance and patrons are encouraged to pack picnics (BYO everything format) for the full Cabaret experience. To order tickets visit [BridgeportTheatre.org](http://BridgeportTheatre.org) or phone 203-576-1636 (option "0").

Bridgeport Theatre Company was founded in May 2010 by a group of Connecticut-based performing artists.

## Concert for INTAKE at Norwalk Concert Hall

Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling is proud to present the fourth annual Gala Concert of the INTAKE Organization, scheduled for Saturday, March 21, 7 p.m., Norwalk Concert Hall. The event will gather the Norwalk Youth Symphony and the Mariachi Academy of Connecticut from the Spanish Community Center of Wallingford along with Norwalk's Ballet Tonantzil, the INTAKE Ensemble and international virtuoso artist Paco Godoy.

"I am proud to present the annual Gala Concert of the Intake Organization here in my city. We hope you will join us and share this important multicultural experience," said Rilling about the opportunity to showcase his city's support for the musicians and the music at the concert hall, adjacent to City Hall. Sarah Watkins, executive director of the Norwalk Youth Symphony states they are "proud to share this musical experience with our community. Once again, our young musicians will perform classics like Bach, Danzón Number 2 by Mexican composer Arturo Márquez and the Peruvian classic 'El Condor Pasa' by Daniel Alomía Robles." Angelica Durrell, from the INTAKE Organization, expressed her satisfaction in preparing for this concert, which gives



young artists the opportunity to share the stage with internationally renowned artists. "Thanks to Mayor Rilling, our partners in the arts and our kind audiences for allowing us to open the doors of this concert hall and combine classical music with the traditional genres of different countries," said Durrell. For more information, visit [intakemusic.org](http://intakemusic.org)

Visit [FCBuzz.org](http://FCBuzz.org) for more information on events and how to get listed.

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Arts & Culture of Fairfield County