



Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

September 2016

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement, P.O. Box 397, Richlands, VA
24641

www.supportappalachia.org Email: info@supportappalachia.org

Planning Ahead: Appalachian Scholarship Fund

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We recently wrapped up the work of our scholarship program for this year. It was great to get our feet wet with this program, and as a relatively newly formed organization we are excited to learn from our initial effort and look for ways to improve to help many more students in our region that need the extra financial assistance as they move from high school to college. We greatly appreciate all the support and donations we received, and the sponsorship of several area businesses.

However, now we begin the process of looking toward next year and setting fundraising goals for this project. Every donation counts, from \$10 on up. As you read this, consider stopping by our website to make an online donation *today*. 100% of your donation to this program goes into the program. Our goal for next year is \$5,000 to help area students. We do our best to make sure that donations stay as close to the donor as possible. For example, if you are from Wise County, VA we will do our best to make sure that the donation goes to a student from your county. It is important that we get our fundraising effort off to a good start.

You can also mail a check (if you choose not to donate online) by making checks payable to Appalachian Scholarship Fund. Thank you!

*The best way to predict
the future is to create it.*

Breaks Interstate Park Fall Events

The Breaks Interstate Park in Central Appalachia (VA/KY) will be featuring family fun adventures this autumn. Among the events is Tales of the Cumberlands: Devils, Giants, Feudists And Physicians which will feature storytellers from around the region sharing our history and even a few fun ghost stories. This event will be held on September 22-24. The park will also be featuring the Appalachian Heritage Festival the on October 1-2 as well as Elk Tours and white water rafting for those looking for outdoor adventures. For more information on autumn activities at the park visit www.breakspark.com.

Bristol Rhythm & Roots Festival

Bristol TN/VA celebrates its annual Rhythm & Roots Festival on September 16-18. Musicians will be sharing their sounds up and down State Street near the state line, and along the adjoining streets throughout the weekend. There will be dozens of bands but the festival is headlined this year by acts such as Buddy Guy, Indigo Girls, Handmouth, Cracker, Bobby Bare and The Whiskey Gentry. For information about the festival and about ticket purchases you can visit www.birthplaceofcountrymusic.org.

*Visit Us Online
at*

www.supportappalachia.org.

*Make an online
donation today!*

Previous Artist of the Month Wins Award

Jo Allison (pen name for Linda Dobkins) has received an award from the James River Writers Club. *Heaven Will Protect the Working Girl*, the third book in Allison's Julia Nye Mystery Series, has been judged Best Self-Published Novel for 2016. Novels entered in the contest are judged on writing quality, editing, layout, cover design, and formatting. The judge for the final round of entries was Christopher Rhodes, a literary agent with the Stuart Agency in New York City. Allison lives in Bristol and is a member of the Appalachian Authors Guild and the Lost State Writers Guild. The Julia Nye Mystery Series is set in 1910 St. Louis. The first three books are available on Amazon, and the fourth in the series is due out in February. The book covers are designed by Rebecca Sharkey of Roanoke, VA.



Have you seen the mountains from a train?

Fall is finally upon us and there is no better time to explore Appalachia for the scenic beautiful of our serene environment. From the plentiful lakes to the beautiful and majestic mountains, Appalachia is the most pristine place in the world to those of us that call it home.

One of the most fun weekend adventures you can take through our region is an autumn train ride through the mountains and valleys as the leaves explode into a variety of colors. It is well worth your time to do a quick web search to find the nearest historic train tour near you. You will find more than one in most of the states in the Appalachian region. One such tour can be found with Mountain Rail Adventures in near Elkins, WV. Check out the various tours with various rail services and plan a Saturday that you'll not forget this autumn. For information about Mountain Rail Adventures you can visit them online at [www. http://mountainrailwv.com/](http://mountainrailwv.com/).

Artist of the Month—Author Willie Dalton

Willie Dalton of Southwest Virginia is the award winning author of *Three Witches in a Small Town*. Having won the *Jan Carol Publishing Believe and Achieve Award* last June with her very first novel is an impressive achievement!

Three Witches in a Small Town is about three sisters who feel an emotional calling to move back to their hometown. With the guidance of their aging grandmother they begin on a path of self discovery as they learn the old ways of mountain healing and magic. The sisters grow closer to together over time as they grow to appreciate their family heritage. “Witches, potions, romance, laughter . . . you will find them all in *Three Witches in a Small Town*.”

“I got the idea for *Three Witches in a Small Town* from a dream I had about three sisters walking around in this little town and everyone staring at them. From there it just progressed into a book about family and the folk magic of the Appalachian mountains,” she says. Dalton, who began writing at the young age of sixteen, developed the story for *Three Witches in a Small Town* and wrote the entire book in just two and a half months. “I just tried to make it a book that I would like to read myself.”



She is currently working on her next book and you may see her out in the region doing book signings from time to time. You can follow her and her work online by connecting with her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/threewitchesinasmalltown or by checking out her blog at <https://threewitchesinasmalltown.wordpress.com/>.

“I want my readers to come away with a feeling of gratitude for our region. And I want them to approach life with a sense that magic is around them and can be tapped into.”

Thanks, Mrs. Dalton, for being our Artist of the Month!

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The Spirit of Giving

Foundation For Appalachian Advancement

Thanks to those that have supported us this year with donations and through word of mouth. There are many great charities out there to support and like most of us, we tend to support things that have a special meaning to us or charities that are close to home. We Appalachians are a hard working people and a very generous people. Friends helping friends. Neighbors helping neighbors.

Many of us will choose to support cancer research, children's hospitals, or local animal shelters. As you consider your donations this time of year, we ask that you consider a small donation to the Foundation For Appalachian Advancement. Whether it is for the Appalachian Scholarship Fund, promoting economic diversification, or promoting our arts and culture, we care about

every donor and every penny given in good spirit. We strive to be good stewards of your generosity and use the donations as efficiently as possible. Those of us that are involved are all volunteers. No Director or Officer is salaried. That gives us the flexibility to make sure that your donations are spent wisely and effectively to support the programs that you believe in.

We appreciate your support and ask that you consider our mission statement and our goals throughout Appalachia to help those in need and promote our culture to the best of our ability.

Thank you.

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