



The Catoctin Forest Alliance Bulletin

www.catoctinforestalliance.org



Newsletter of the CFA

Vol. 15 No. 3

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Editor: Linda Sundergill

Our mission is to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations

www.catoctinforestalliance.org

Meet the Artist:

Encaustic in the Wild

Join Artist-in-Residence Cherie Peters as she shares her nature-inspired artwork and demonstrates the ancient technique of encaustic painting using melted beeswax and pigment – perfect for curious minds of all ages.



Where:

Cunningham Falls State Park
Concessions Building at South Beach
14274 William Houck Dr.
Thurmont, MD 21788

When:

Sunday, September 7th
From 1:00 to 3:00PM



RSVP using the QR code here!

Programs are free of charge with park entrance fee of \$3 per MD vehicle & \$5 per non-resident vehicle; cash or check only at park honor box.



Artist in Residence

Cherie Peters hails from Osage Beach, Missouri and will be doing a residency in Cunningham Falls State Park from September 6-20, 2025. Cherie has been practicing her art for 30 years and has taught K-12 art to diverse populations in rural, suburban and urban setting. She is currently working on her EdD in Higher Ed. Leadership and holds Master of Arts in Educational Administration degree and a BS in Art Education. Hope you can attend one or both of Cherie's presentations

Trail Pages: A Nature-Zine Workshop

Join Artist-in-Residence Cherie Peters for a quiet observation of the park trails followed by a lesson on how to craft a simple nature journal.

An adventure for all ages!

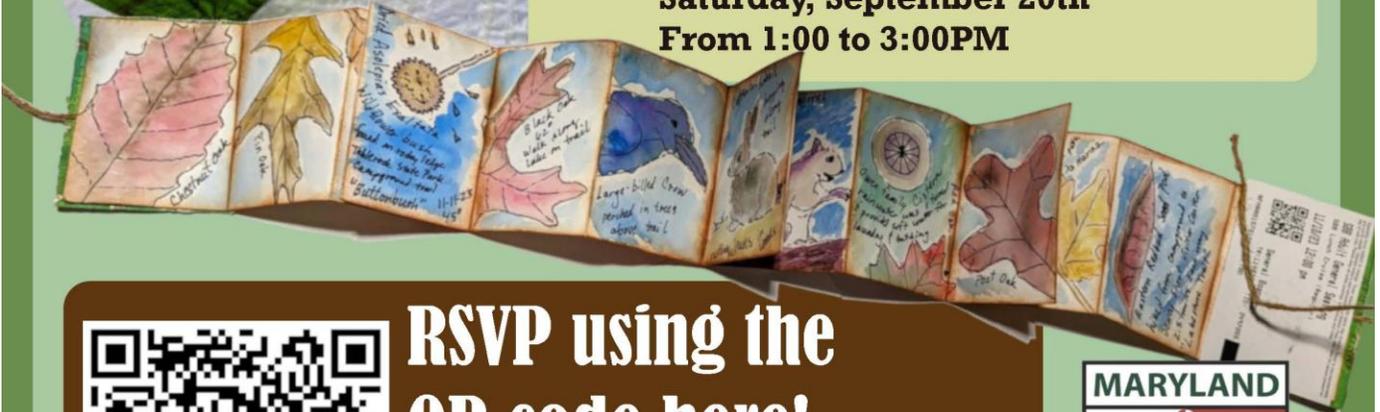


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Artist in Residence continued....

Martina Maya-Callen is an artist from Laurel, Md. She will be in residency at Catoctin Mountain Park from September 4-25, 2025. Martina plans to honor the deep artistic legacy of the National Parks by creating landscape paintings as well as making art from paint that she creates from natural resources during her residency. “George Catlin and the Hudson River School painters captured the beauty of our landscapes, inspiring the preservation of these lands-nearly 200 years ago. In that spirit, I aim to create artwork that is not only inspired by the park but is physically made from the local community- deepening the connection between art, nature and environmental responsibility.

Artist’s Workshop Sunday September 21st at 1pm

Please join Artist-In-Residence Martina Maya-Callen in a “Nature’s Palette” Workshop on September 21st at 1pm at the Apples Church Pavillion, 7908 Apples Church Rd, Thurmont, Md 21788. This workshop engages all ages in the community as they connect to the land! This workshop invites participants to explore the alchemy of nature by transforming nature into art!

Crab Raffle 2025



Jim Robbins and Jim Sundergill man a booth at Cunningham Falls State Park on Saturday, August 30th to sell tickets for the Crab Raffle. All proceeds will benefit the children’s programs that CFA conducts at Cunningham Falls State Park, Catoctin Mountain Park and Thorpewood

Raffle drawing to be held Labor Day Weekend.



A Note from our President, Jim Robbins

With the start of the school year coming the changing of the forest is starting again. The nights are a little cooler and the daily temperatures not as hot (maybe a few more). Fall is just around the corner and the mountains will be full of youth groups eager to explore, have adventures and learn about the Catoclin Mountains.

Be respectful of the beauty and animals that you see as you visit their home. Hike the trails, take in the wonderful views and take the time to listen. Take in the smells of the forest and visit the vistas. Check with the visitor center for information on new trails or future ones to come and see what new changes have been made in the parks. Please stay safe as you do all these things.

“Happy trails to you”

Jim Robbins, President, Catoclin Forest Alliance

SUCCESS

The SUCCESS youth will again be working within the Parks. Frederick County SUCCESS Program has a new name – Frederick Academy and the mascot is the eagle. The group starts work in the Parks on September 15, 2025. Our objectives this year are more trail work, clearing of ditches at campgrounds, picnic table refurbishment, campground rehab, mulching and many other projects from the Parks. This is the beginning of our 15th year of making a difference in the lives of young people that get to enjoy the wonders of nature and experience being part of the mountains in the jobs that they do to make the Parks a better place for all of us.



Jim Robbins gave a presentation on behalf of CFA on May 20, 2025 and was awarded \$2090 to support CFA programs. Pictured left to right: CFA members Dennis and Shelley Miller, CFA President, Jim Robbins, Judy Thompson, Linda and Jim Sundergill.

Consider Donating to CFA

To help CFA continue its programs to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest, please consider, making a donation. CFA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, so your donations will be tax deductible. Any donation over \$20 will include a one-year CFA membership. Here is what your donation could do.

- \$50 will buy notebooks or clipboards for 40 children at the week-long day camp.
- \$120 will cover the cost for one child to attend the week-long day camp
- \$125 will provide food for 40 children for one day of day camp.
- \$200 helps sponsor the Artist in Residence program
- \$364 will buy protective equipment for a SUCCESS program youth.
- \$400 will buy bus transportation for 40 children to day camp for one day.
- \$1300 will fund the SUCCESS program for one year.



Giving Levels

- **Acorn** up to \$99
- **Seedling** \$100- 499.99
- **Sapling** \$500-999.99
- **Mighty Oak** \$1000 and over

Donations checks can be made out to CFA and sent to Catoctin Forest Alliance, PO Box 411, Thurmont, MD 21788

Join or Renew your Membership to CFA

We'd love to have you join us in our mission to protect the Catoctin Mountain forest. Your support would be a great benefit to us and the forest. To join CFA or renew your membership, please send the membership application form and a check made out to **Catoctin Forest Alliance** with notation "Membership" to the address below. **The yearly membership dues are \$20 per person or \$30 per couple.**

You can also join online at <http://www.catoctinforestalliance.org/index.php/join>.

Kathy Byrne *New members will receive a CFA patch*
CFA Treasurer
123 Ironmaster Dr.
Thurmont, MD 21788



Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Committee Interest

Strategic Planning _____	Membership _____	Conservation/Education _____
Fundraising _____	Artist in Residence _____	Marketing/Publicity _____
Information Technology _____	Finance _____	

Visit our website at www.catoctinforestalliance.org