



BRING WHO YOU ARE



Photo courtesy of Stephan Altau

ARCADIA PRESENTS THIS FALL

As summer winds down, we're filled with gratitude for the incredible musicians who lit up our ARCADIA PRESENTS stage—Pete Echols Trio, William Hayes Duo, Caravanserai Music, Shenandoah Latin Dance, the brilliant students of the Heifetz Institute, and PBJ Acoustic. Thank you for bringing your talent, joy, and rhythm to our community!

But don't put the fun away with the flip-flops—fall at Arcadia is just getting started! Mark your calendars for these upcoming performances and events:

- 8/31 (Labor Day Sunday) – David Jessee (of Cotton Hill) | 6 PM
- 9/27 & 28 - Triwizard Tournament Maze, Queen City Mischief & Magic
- 10/4 – Little Birdies | 6 PM
- 10/11 – Blue Ridge Irish Music School | 5 PM
- 10/18 – American Shakespeare Theatrical Blood Workshop | 3 PM

Join us for another season of music, creativity, and surprises!



TRIWIZARD TOURNAMENT MAZE

This September, we're hitting pause on our music series to bring Staunton something truly magical—the **Triwizard Tournament Maze** in preparation for the **Queen City Mischief and Magic Festival (Sept. 27–28, 2025)**.

Never volunteered at the maze before? Now's your chance! Put on your best Harry Potter–inspired costume and step into the magic: guide guests through the swirling antigravity mist, teach them how to meet the hippogriff's gaze with a respectful bow, warn them to steer clear of the blast-ended skrewt's dangerous stinger, and test their wits with the riddle of the sphinx.

The maze is our **biggest fundraiser of the year**, and it can't happen without you.

🧙 Spots fill up fast—sign up early to claim your preferred shift! 🧙

👉 [SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER here](#)



MEMORIES OF DENISE MOCLAIR

It is with great sadness that we share the news Denise Moclair passed away on August 20, 2025 after a short illness.

Strong communities thrive on participation and contribution—and few embodied that spirit more than Denise. Her gifts to Staunton were countless, and our city is richer for them.

Denise joined the Arcadia Project in 2018 and quickly became indispensable. She partnered on public art installations, including dozens of imaginative window displays at 119 and 125 E. Beverley.

One of her most inspired projects was *A Year of Art*, where she invited local artists to display their work—primarily sculpture—in Arcadia's windows, one month at a time.

When the theater restoration began, Denise didn't hesitate to lead. She organized volunteers to wash and repaint the façade, implementing a design by Frazier and Associates.

She also brought magic to Staunton's festivals. For Queen City Mischief and Magic, she masterminded the Triwizard Tournament Maze—designing, painting, sculpting creatures, and rallying over 40 volunteers to bring it to life.

And still, she found time for her own art. A gifted mosaic artist, Denise transformed scavenged jewelry, ceramics, and metals into hundreds of vibrant, whimsical pieces that filled restaurants, coffee shops, and collectors' homes.

The measure of Denise's loss cannot be overstated. We will always remember a woman whose artistry, leadership, and heart made Staunton shine brighter.

You can find a lovely article about Denise's involvement in the Artisan's Loft [here](#).



Denise created and donated two extraordinary mosaics (above) inspired by the theater's Art Deco windows. They will be mounted in her honor—a tribute to her vision and generosity.

Have questions? Either respond to this email or write us at info@thearcadiaproject.org

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