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Friends of Maple Grove Cemetery, Inc.

127-15 Kew Gardens Rd. Kew Gardens, NY 11415

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**2023 Event Calendar**

PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE or CALL FOR UPDATES if you cannot access updates online. Dates and times are subject to change. All events are free admission unless otherwise noted. <https://www.friendsofmaplegrove.org/events1>

**APRIL – MAY GALLERY ART EXHIBIT –** **Immigrants….Untold Stories**. Paintings by Forest Hills artist, Rita Wilmers. April 1 through May 31. Mon – Sat 8:30 AM to 4 PM, closed Sundays & Holidays. Dedicated to the many immigrants at Maple Grove including Elisabeth Riis (Denmark), Francis Criss (England), Rosina Lhevinne (Russia), Nikos Bel-Jon (Greece, Edouard Wah (Haiti), Wang Tingqi (China) Adebe Ambatchew (Ethiopia) and many others. Opening reception on Sat. 5/20/23 at 6 PM following the Chamber Music Play In.

Sat. 4/22/23 **Civil War Spy: Elizabeth Van Lew. Presentation by descendant June McCowan.** Dedicated to George F Mason 1837-1921, prisoner in Libby Prison in Richmond, VA during the Civil War. 2 PM – 3 PM in the Celebration Hall. Reception to follow.

Thurs. 4/27/23 **Poetry Reading & Book Signing**. One of the most celebrated poets in Brazil, **Salgado Maranhao** from Rio de Janeiro & his translator Prof. Alexis Levitin, SUNY Plattsburg, as part of their US Reading Tour, reading in Portuguese and English from his five books, including Blood of the Sun. 7 PM to 8 PM in the Celebration Hall followed by a reception in the Gallery. Books are $20/1; $40/3, etc. (cash only) Dedicated to NY literary agent, Roberta Pryor (1924-2001).

Sat. 4/29/23 **Ellis Island Tea**, at 4 PM in the Celebration Hall. Lecture by world traveler, photographer and author of “The Long Direction”, Ganesha Balakarishnan along with an exhibit in the Celebration Hall of photos from his travels. Cost $30/$25 Members. Payment in advance due by 4/21/23. Dedicated to Ellis Island Immigrants at Maple Grove: Alfio Manninici (1917-1921) and Maria Monte (1916-1920).

**MAY EXHIBITS – Immigrants….Untold Stories**. Paintings by Forest Hills artist, Rita Wilmers. 4/1 – 5/31 in the Gallery. **Photography Exhibit** by Ganesha Balakrishnan (author of The Long Direction, photographer, tour guide, pilot, flight instructor teacher) in the Celebration Hall 4/29 – 5/29. Mon – Sat 8:30 AM to 4 PM, closed Sundays & Holidays.

**May Flag Planting –** by Boy Scouts, volunteers can pick up flags at the Center during office hours from May 13 to May 27.

**Headstone Brigade** – grave cleaningby volunteers, Boys Scouts, Kew Forest art students. Spring dates to be scheduled.

Sat. 5/13/23 **Yejin Han NY Pianists Club Recital** at 4 PM. Open to the public.

Sat. 5/20/23 **Chamber Music** (**ACMP) Play-In** 4 PM – 6 PM in the Celebration Hall. Limited seating available: RSVP ONLY. An informal impromptu musical get-together. Meet Forest Hills artist Rita Wilmers at her Art Exhibit, *Immigrants…Untold Stories*, in the Gallery at the 6 PM reception following the Play In. Dedicated to Harry Foy (1869-1931) of the vaudeville team of Foy & Clark.

**JUNE ART EXHIBIT – Birds of Tanzania by Bill Wiggins**

Dedicated to Adebe Ambatchew (1934-2022) biographer of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, served in the United Nations: Spec. Asst. to Asst. Secty Gen and Regional Dir. for Africa and the UN Dev. Prog. 1972-1996.

WWII Re-enactment date TBD

Sat. 6/10/23 **Nautical Concert.** 4 PM – 6 PM in the Celebration Hall with reception to follow. Dedicated to Capt. John Rowland Hesson (1872-1930), steamboat captain on the Great Lakes.

Sat. 6/17/23 **Juneteenth Storytelling Performance** with Thelma Thomas, Storyteller from the African Folk Heritage Circle <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgz2UFhQ95c> 4 PM in the Celebration Hall with reception to follow.

Wed. 6/21/23 **Make Music Concert** outdoors from 6 PM to 7:30 PM at the Lake, (sunset is at 8:30 PM) In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the Celebration Hall.

Sat. 6/24/23 **Michael & Cathy Chimenti** – Music Standards Concert 4 PM – 5 PM in the Celebration Hall. Dedicated to Jazz pianist Clarence Albert Profit 1910 – 1944.

**Date TBD: Mariel Pacific in Concert** with Sacred Music from the hymns by George Cole Stebbins (out of the 1500 that Stebbins composed) 1846-1945 at Maple Grove. .

**JULY ART EXHIBIT – Kam’s Art – Kelvin Morel** Local Queens Artist who designed the Love’s Kitchen at 125-02 84th Rd. in Kew Gardens.

Sat. 7/8/23 **Nick Hirshon** presents his book **Forest Hills** by Arcadia Press, with book signing. 4 PM to 5 PM in the Celebration Hall

Sat. 7/29/23 **Jazz Lawn Concert** at 6 PM – fundraiser – free for members.

**AUGUST ART EXHIBIT –**

Sat. 8/5/23 **Children’s Concert**

APEC 2-3 children’s nature workshops on Saturdays with Jacob

**SEPTEMBER ART EXHIBIT - Eyal Bar-David** photographs

**Sat 9/30/23: Spirits Alive** tentative date

**OCTOBER ART EXHIBIT – Artwork by Monica Mitran** (1959-2019). Artist, poet and designer for Michael Kors, Donna Karan and others. Former Kew Gardens resident.

Sun. 10/8/23 **Music of Thistle.** 4 PM in the Celebration Hall. Chamber Folk trio. Thistle Jemison (harp, voice, classical percussion and cello) Edgar Allan Poe inspired record Mysterious Star: A Tribute to Poe to be released in October – all original music.

Sat 10/14/23 **Yejin Han Fall Piano Recital** at 4 PM in the Celebration Hall.

Sun. 10/22/23 **Open House NY Walking Tours** for OHNY Weekend. Register on OHNY website. 10 AM and 2 PM

Sat. 10/28/23 **Trunk or Treat** (rain date Sun. 10/29)

**NOVEMBER ART EXHIBIT – Artwork by PS99 Students: Whimsical Houses of Richmond Hill and Day of the Dead**

Murder Mystery Dinner

**DECEMBER ART EXHIBIT – Photography Exhibit for Dee Johnson**

Sat. 12/2/23 Holiday Concert and Children’s Book Drive.