

pittsburgh applause!

arts & entertainment newsletter

Pittsburgh Native To Curate International

Writer and contemporary art specialist Ingrid Schaffner has been named curator of the next Carnegie International.

Begun in 1896, the Carnegie International is the oldest global exhibition of contemporary art held in North America. It's a signature project of the Carnegie Museum of Art (CMA), a component of the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**. Some of the most famous artists of the past century have been showcased at the International, including Winslow Homer (1836-1910), Mary Cas-

satt (1844-1926), Willem de Kooning (1904-1997) and Pittsburgh native Andy Warhol (1928-1987).

CARNEGIE MUSEUMS OF PITTSBURGH

Born in Pittsburgh but raised in California, Schaffner is well known in the professional arts world for her projects involving surrealism, collecting and photography. She has written several books on contemporary art.

Alice Carter in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* quotes her as saying that "I grew up going to the Carnegie museums and library, and I have been making pilgrimages back to Pittsburgh to see the International since 1995,"

"It takes a special kind of curator to successfully organize such an exhibition," explains the CMA's

Lynn Zelevansky in a press release. "We are delighted to have Ingrid on board. She is thoughtful and knowledgeable, an excellent writer and has true collaborative spirit."

Schaffner officially begins work on May 1 and will move to Pittsburgh this September.

In other CMA news, 34-year-old Daniel Leers has been named the museum's new curator of photography, reports Marylynn Pitz in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. The current curator, Linda Benedict-Jones, is retiring.

Leers' bio is part of Pitz's article at <http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/art-architecture/2015/03/06/Former-Pittsburgher-Daniel-Leers-named-new-curator-of-photography-at-Carnegie-Museum-of-Art/stories/201503060321>

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**Michael Graves
(1934 - 2015)**

Harris: Streamline Film Permit Process

Pittsburgh City Councilwoman Darleen Harris plans to introduce municipal legislation to make things easier for film and TV productions in the city, reports Robert Zullo in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.



Harris' plan is to overhaul the permit process to make it easier and more efficient even though Dawn Keezer of the **Pittsburgh Film Office** has already been working with the mayor's office

to do the same thing. "I haven't seen what she's working on," Zullo quotes Keezer. His full article is available at <http://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2015/03/23/Pittsburgh-city-councilwoman-to-introduce-film-friendly-legislation/stories/201503230037>

In other news, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* Barbara Vancheri writes that a comedy-drama being filmed in Pittsburgh has been given a new title. The movie was originally called "Let it Snow" and is now "Love the Coopers."

Take A Shot 2015

Local middle and high school students are welcome to participate in this year's Take a Shot contest, the **Steeltown Entertainment Project** has announced.



The Steeltown Entertainment Project is a non-profit founded in 2003 with a mission to build a vibrant and sustainable entertainment industry in Southwestern Pennsylvania

In an email to key media (including *Pittsburgh Applause*), Steeltown's Amber Farr wrote

that this year's theme is "People, Places or Things (past or present) in and around the Greater Pittsburgh Area who have had a positive influence on S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)."

These short videos (between 2 and 5 minutes) can be animation, interviews, comedies or dramas. There will be multiple cash prizes from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Submission dates are April 15 through April 30. For more information, call (412) 251-0890 or by emailing takeashotcontest@steeltown.org

LAFF To Launch

Pittsburgh is among the cities where Cox Media Group is launching a new all-comedy television network called LAFF.



Cox Media is the division of **Cox Enterprises** that owns WPXI-TV and the Pittsburgh Cable News Channel (PCNC).

A press release describes LAFF as "the country's first-ever, over-the-air broadcast television network devoted to comedy." The release goes on to say that "LAFF will feature a mix of contemporary off-network sitcoms and popular theatrical motion pictures, with a target audience of adults 18-49." The network has leased episodes of series that include "Night Court" and "Empty Nest."

In addition to the Cox stations, LAFF is being picked up by stations owned by the **Walt Disney Company's** ABC division and the **E.W. Scripps Company**.

LAFF debuts on April 15 and will air in Pittsburgh on WPXI's sub-channel, 11.3



TRAF Nominated For Online Award

The Three Rivers Arts Festival, a project of the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust**, has been nominated in the latest 10Best Readers' Choice travel award contest.



The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is an economic and cultural development organization established in 1984. It came into existence largely due to the initiative of local industrialist Henry John Heinz II (1908-1987), the grandson of Henry John Heinz (1844-1919) and founder of the food giant H. J. Heinz Company.

A press release explains the following: "Expert panelists responsible for nominating the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival include Joe Lewis and Chip Conley. Lewis is a nationally known artist, educator, and professor of Art at the University of California, Irvine. He exhibits frequently and has written for *Art in America*, *The LA Weekly* and *Artforum*. Conley is the founder of Fest300, the online guide to the world's best festivals, as well as the founder of Joie de Vivre Hospitality, Burning Man board member, *New York Times* bestselling author and Head of Global Hospitality and Strategy at AirBnB." Voting continues through April 13 at <http://www.10best.com/>

[awards/travel/best-art-festival/](#) with the winners being announced on April 15 and later in an edition of the newspaper *USA Today*.

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Comcast CFO Leaves To Start Own Firm

One of **Comcast's** top executives is leaving the company to start his own investment firm --- with the help of Comcast.



Comcast owns NBC-Universal and operates Pittsburgh's cable television franchise.

Michael Angelakis, the company's chief financial officer, is receiving \$4 billion in financing from Comcast to start his own firm that will seek media and technology opportunities for investment.

"This is a time of tremendous change and opportunity in our core technology and media industries, as well as in adjacent business areas." Comcast's Brian L. Roberts is quoted by Cynthia Littleton on *Variety's* web site. "We believe the ability to establish entrepreneurial ventures that partner with and participate in the growth of innovative companies can be an important driver of strategic and financial value creation for our company,"

Littleton explains that "Angelakis' firm would have a 10-year advisory deal with the cable giant which will be its sole investor. Angelakis will invest \$40 million, and others who are join-

ing his firm will bring its financial backing at launch to \$4.1 billion."

Comcast is currently focused on the federal review process for its proposed merger with **Time-Warner Cable**.



Free Calendar Listing for Downtown Events

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www.DowntownPittsburgh.com/events/suggest

Little Lake Makes Big Change

A respected little theater company that's proud to be little has hired a new management team.

Established in 1949 by Will Disney, the **Little Lake Theatre** stages plays in a renovated barn in rural Washington County.

The company needed to replace husband-and-wife team Robert Fitchett and Sunny Disney Fitchett (Will Disney's daughter) who are retiring and moving to California. They have selected Roxy Mt. Joy as artistic director and board member Bob Rak as managing director.



Pittsburgh Ballet Auditions

Community auditions have been scheduled by the **Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre** (PBT) for children's scholarships at the PBT's school.

The scholarship program supports early ballet training for students who demonstrate both talent and financial need. A press release explains that "The audition will consist of a basic dance class instructed by PBT School faculty members. No previous dance experience is required.

Children must be 5 to 8 years of age by Sept. 1, and must qualify

for the Free and Reduced Lunch program to be considered for scholarships. Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their talent and dedication to pursuing dance training at PBT School.

During the audition, PBT School will host a 'Get to Know PBT and Ballet' information session for parents and family members."

For more information, or to register, call (412) 454-9109.

Images

Celebrate Pittsburgh's
arts & entertainment



One of Pittsburgh's favorite sonos — composer Billy Strayhorn (1915-1967) is the subject of a special concert being held this month at the Cabaret at Theatre Square.

Source: Wikipedia

To have an image considered contact Jim Richards at jim@james-richards.com

Rhodes Re-Ups With CBS

David Rhodes has extended his contract with CBS News and will continue to run the division through February 2019.



In Pittsburgh, **CBS Corporation** owns three radio and two television stations, most notably KDKA. Rhodes has been president of CBS News since 2011.

"CBS News is experiencing division-wide growth," said CBS

president Leslie Moonves in a press release. "David's exceptional news judgment and competitive acumen has had a great impact so far, and we look forward to continued growth on all our news broadcasts as we move forward."

Among Rhodes' efforts was the launch of the critically acclaimed "CBS This Morning" with journalism legend Charlie Rose as lead anchor. He is also responsible for expanding the award winning "Face the Nation" from 30 to 60 minutes.

Garden Theater Project May Get New Developer

Mark Belko in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* writes that things one of the developers of the Garden Theater is considering taking on more of the project.

The project involves renovating a former North Side movie theater and its adjacent buildings into a mixed-use facility that will include the **City of Asylum** literary organization.

Belko explains at <http://www.post-gazette.com/business/development/2015/03/31/Pittsburgh-developer-eyes-rehabilitation-of-Garden-Theater-on-North-Side/stories/201503310157> that **Trek Development Group** is in discussions with the Philadelphia firm currently in charge about taking over. There have been some setbacks in the effort, most notably a

planned restaurant that pulled out of the project.

Kevin Acklin of the city's Urban Redevelopment Authority told Belko that "we would welcome the acquisition by Trek Development of the Garden Theater building as a component of their development plans for the remainder of the block."



New CSC Board Member

David Martin has been named to the board of the Carnegie Science Center (CSC).



The Carnegie Science Center began in 1939 as the Buhl Planetarium and reopened in 1991 as a new facility and a component of the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**.

Martin is a senior executive of Pittsburgh-based engineering firm Michael Baker International,

"The shortage of engineers and technical professionals will only increase over the next decade," Martin said in a press release. "Carnegie Science Center's initiatives and leadership in STEM education as a driving force to meet the educational needs of the future drove my interest to be involved with the board." STEM refers to science, technology, engineering and mathematics and usually used in discussing education.

Martin lives in the city's Regent Square neighborhood with his wife and two children.





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THU
2

Marvel at the tradition of the classic Shrine Circus at **Consol Energy Center**.

THU
2

A more unusual circus show can be found at the **Byham Theater** where the Peking Acrobats are sure to amaze

SAT
4

Some of the greatest rockers in history shake **Heinz Hall's** walls.

MON
6

Just two nights later, **Heinz Hall** welcomes the legendary band Moody Blues!

TUE
7

The sizzling, sexy 1987 movie "Dirty Dancing" hits the **Benedum Center** stage as an even hotter musical.

TUE
7

Singer and songwriter Neil Diamond swings and shines at **Consol Energy Center**.

WED
8

The child of a musical dynasty, Rosanne Cash brings a mix of genres to the **Byham Theater**.

FRI
10

French classical pianist Helene Grimaud joins the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra at **Heinz Hall** for a program dedicated to one of Germany's greatest composers.

Get into the swing of things with the Pittsburgh Pirates as they launch the 2015 season on April 13 at **PNC Park!**



MON
13

The Cabaret at Theater Square welcome the wonderful Ann Hampton Callaway.



THU
16

An exciting, fast-paced version of Shakespeare's gripping play "Othello" debuts at the **O'Reilly Theater**.

THU
16

TV star Jasmine Guy brings the incredible era known as the Harlem Renaissance to the **Byham Theater**.

FRI
17

If you think "Dirty Dancing" sizzles, stop by the **Pittsburgh Playhouse** for an even hotter staging of the play "A Streetcar Named Desire."

FRI
17

Set to a classical score, the modern ballet "La Bayadere" graces the **Benedum Center** with its romantic tale of a temple dancer.

FRI
17

This year's J Fest is back with an impressive array of Jewish-Israeli films. Be sure to check out our [SPECIAL SECTION](#).

FRI
17

One of the music world's legends, Art Gunfunkel comes to the **Carnegie Music Hall**.

SAT
18

Up and coming Swedish choreographer Pontus Lidberg will really move you at the **Byham Theater**.

SAT
18

Its another evening of cash and drag queens at **Rodef Shalom** for this month's Outrageous Bingo.

MON
20

The cast of the hit TV show "Mythbusters" bust into the **Benedum Center**.

MON
20

The cast of the hit TV show "Mythbusters" bust into the **Benedum Center**.

TUE
21

Singer Allan Harris and pianist Eric Reed bring the music of Pittsburgh's Billy Strayhorn to the **Cabaret at Theater Square**.

TUE
21

Head out to the **Barnes & Noble** in Settlers Ridge to meet the nine talented young people as they share the book they created together.

FRI
24

Drop by the **Pittsburgh Cultural District** for the quarterly Gallery Crawl!

SAT
25

Pittsburgh's vital role in World War II is explored at the **Heinz Regional History Center** through the "Yes We Can!" exhibit.

TUE
28

The co-creator of the hit web series "Pittsburgh Dad" visits the **Barnes & Noble** at the Waterfront to discuss his hilarious new book based on the show.

National/World A&E News Round-Up

BBC Fires Clarkson & Gets Backlash

English automobile journalist Jeremy Clarkson has been fired by the **British Broadcasting Corporation** (BBC) from the hit TV series "Top Gear" after he verbally and physically abused one of the show's producers, Oisin Tymon.

Clarkson has been a controversial figure in the United Kingdom for years. He has often criticized what he considers undue government involvement in peoples' lives and has been critical of the environmental movement. Clarkson publically apologized in May 2014 after uttering a racial slur in what he said was an unintentional incident. Last December he got in trouble again for offending a social group when he described a car he disliked on "Top Gear" as being "a bit gay, yes, very ginger beer."

"It is with great regret that I have told Jeremy Clarkson today that the BBC will not be renewing his contract," the BBC's Tony Hall said. "It is not a decision I have taken lightly. I have done so only after a very careful consideration of the facts and after personally meeting both Jeremy and Oisin Tymon."

"It is with great regret that I have told Jeremy Clarkson today that the BBC will not be renewing his contract," the BBC's Tony Hall is quoted by Annie Martin of the United Press International. Clarkson and his supporters have been strongly responding with the ex-host allegedly using obscenities to describe his former employers and Hall has been receiving death threats.

Statute of Limitations on Stolen Statues?

The decades-old issue of art looted by the Nazis during World War II has been addressed in a surprising way by one of Europe's leading art managers.

Klaus Albrecht Schroder of the **Albertina Museum** in Vienna tells Flavia Foradini on TheArt-Newspaper.com that "the international community should decide on a sensible time frame of 20 or 30 years from now," adding that "If we don't set a time limit of around 100 years after the end of the Second World War, then we should ask ourselves why claims regarding crimes committed during the First World War should not still be valid; why we don't argue anymore about the consequences of the 1870-1871 Franco-Prussian war, and why we don't claim restitution of works of art that have been stolen during previous wars?"

Read more at <http://theartnewspaper.com/articles/Vienna-museum-director-calls-for-time-limit-on-Naziloot-restitution-claims/37391>

Joining the Streaming Tidal Wave

Rapper, record producer and entrepreneur Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter is starting his own online streaming audio service writes Erik Sass on TheWrap.com.

The service is called **Tidal** and was launched March 30 in New York City with an array of music celebrities that included his wife, Beyonce Knowles.

Sass explains that "the new service will offer access to over 25 million different audio tracks with high-fidelity sound optimized for 16-bit delivery. The service, which also includes music videos, costs \$19.99 per month."

New Dude For "Daily"

South African actor, writer and comedian Trevor Noah has been selected to replace Jon Stewart as the anchor of the award winning satirical news series "The Daily Show."

Debuting in 1996, "The Daily Show" is a cable show that spoofs newscasts and politics. Stewart has been anchor since 1999.

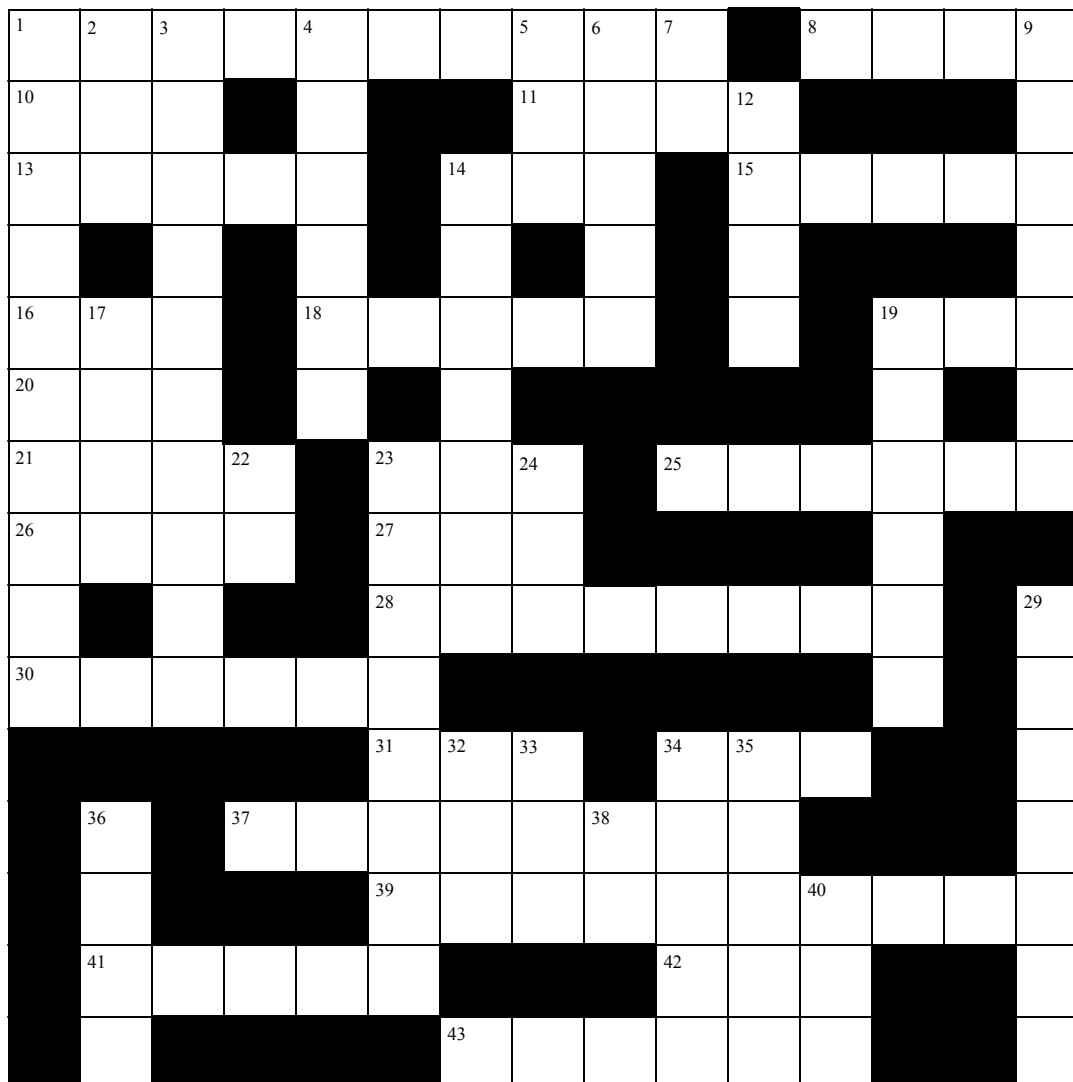
Noah was born in 1984 to mixed-race parents whose relationship was illegal in South Africa at the time. His mother was even fined and jailed for it. Noah has become well-known in his homeland for his political satire and joined "The Daily Show" as a correspondent in 2014. More background information is available at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trevor_Noah

"In choosing Noah," writes Brian Steinberg on *Variety's* web site," Comedy Central is banking that following a tried-and-true formula will keep the program that is arguably the linchpin of its schedule top of mind among its core audience of young male viewers".

No date for the change has been announced.

THE APPLAUSE PUZZLE

“Leonard Nimoy”



ACROSS

1. See 9-Down
8. Group
10. New Prefix
11. 1948 Hitchcock film
13. Awakens
14. Leno, to pals
15. Nimoy's role on 9-Down/1-Across
16. Picnic nuisance
18. Lucy's pal
19. Polynesian treat
20. Slavic military unit
21. Queen of 17-Down, to pals
23. Like you, Nimoy's had nine digits (abbr)
25. The home of 41-Across
26. Get better
27. Foot extension
28. See 37-Across
30. Comic Brooks, to pals
31. Biblical pronoun
34. Sewing tool
37. Nimoy directed this 1987 film (with 28-Across)
39. 41-Across' ship
41. Nimoy's most famous role
42. Naughty 70s magazine
43. Succeeded Nimoy as 41-Across

DOWN

1. Nimoy's eerie 70s show
2. NYC opera company
3. 41-Across' special feature
4. Type of sibling
5. Top half of a bikini
6. 41-Across always was to Kirk
7. King of Rock (init.)
9. Nimoy's second series (with 1-Across)
12. Grand tale
14. US President when 23-Down debuted
17. Egypt's river
19. 1960 Hitchcock film
22. French football/soccer club (init.)
23. Nimoy's most famous TV show
24. Homer's pal
29. He starred in 37-Across/28-Down
32. Feathered farm mom
33. Up until now
34. Argentine leader
35. 41-Across did this to his computer
36. Throw
37. Not you

Last Month's Solution



OOPS!

Jim lost his key
to last month's puzzle.
Sorry about that!

Pittsburgh Applause Editorial

Reminder: Help Me To Help You

By James A. Richards

As most of you are aware, I receive no pay for the things I do for Pittsburgh's arts and entertainment community/industry.

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station that will provide learning and creative opportunities for local media students and media artists while featuring public domain material in new and innovative ways.

Remember: help me to help you. Contact me to learn more and thanks!

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