Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 2pm
Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center
Today’s Program

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:  
Jason Schupbach  
Director of Design Programs,  
National Endowment for the Arts

Q & A

PANEL: COMMITMENT, COLLABORATION AND CHANGE

Judge Fred Rutberg, President of the Berkshire Eagle  
Lisa Donovan, Professor MCLA  
Roberta McCulloch-Dews,  
Director of Administrative Services,  
Pittsfield Mayor’s Office

Q & A

CLOSING ADDRESS: State Senator Ben Downing

Q & A

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE:  
Berkshire Children & Families  
Kids 4 Harmony

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3  Third Movement  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
Por Una Cabeza  
Carlos Gardel

Facilitator: Dolf Berle,  
President & COO, Dave & Buster’s  
Board member: Norman Rockwell Museum,  
National Make-A-Wish Foundation
Dolf Berle, Facilitator. With over 25 years of business experience in the entertainment and food-and-beverage industries, Dolf Berle is a student of how for-profit corporations may have positive social impact, and specifically how they intersect with the nonprofit sector. Dolf’s passion for learning about our wonderfully interconnected world has led him to earn diverse degrees – History and Literature (BA, Harvard), African History (MA, University of Zimbabwe) and General Management (MBA, Harvard) – and to work with nonprofits of varied missions in rural Thailand, in the arts, in children’s health, and for the Special Olympics. A gifted facilitator and public speaker, Dolf's work with these groups has focused on building collaboration between partners, innovations in fundraising methods, and strategic planning.

He is a regular speaker at industry conferences including Argyle Executive conference sessions, and restaurant leadership conferences including those focused on guest relations and risk management. He is an experienced facilitator in a variety of executive settings, most recently leading the Norman Rockwell Museum board and management team strategic planning group session. Dolf lives in Dallas, TX where he serves as the President and COO of Dave & Buster's, a public company with over 13,000 employees dedicated to bringing fun and joy to communities via family entertainment centers.

Dolf is a former resident of Stockbridge and a graduate of Monument Mountain Regional High School, where he was recently inducted into their Hall of Fame in recognition of his status as Masters World Champion in the Pole Vault and U.S. National Champion in the Decathlon (#3 in the World).

Jason Schupbach, Director of Design Programs, Visual Arts Division Team Leader, National Endowment for the Arts. Jason became Director of Design at the National Endowment for the Arts in May 2010. In this position, he manages the NEA's grantmaking for design and the NEA's design initiatives, such as the Mayors' Institute on City Design and Our Town, which provides funding in recognition of the role that the arts can play in economic revitalization and in creating livable, sustainable communities.

Prior to coming to the NEA, Schupbach held the first-in-the-nation position of Creative Economy Industry Director for the Massachusetts Office of Business Development where his accomplishments included coordinating the growth of new industry cluster groups, such as the Design Industry Group of Massachusetts (DIGMA), and launching a Design Excellence initiative, an effort to improve procurement processes in Massachusetts in order to build more sustainable and longer-lasting buildings and communities, and increase the number of designers being offered contracts.

Schupbach received his BS in public health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his master's degree in city planning with an urban design certificate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Fred D. Rutberg, President of The Berkshire Eagle. Born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, Fred majored in political science. He received an A.B. from the University of Michigan in 1967, and J.D. from NYU School of Law in 1970. He served as Book Review Editor of NYU Journal of International Law & Politics.

Fred was Staff Attorney for the New York City Commission on Human Rights and Manhattan Legal Services 1971-1972. He moved to Berkshire County in 1972 to become the attorney-in-charge of Legal Aid Society of Albany’s Rensselaer County Office in Troy from 1972 to 1974.

Judge Rutberg maintained a general practice law firm in Stockbridge and Lenox, Massachusetts from 1972 to 1984 [individually, and as partner in Rutberg & Shearn, 1975 to 1980; Rutberg & Heller 1984-1994]. Clients included: Red Lion Inn, Country Curtains, Inc., Berkshire Corporation, the Rose family enterprises, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, Inc.

He was appointed as Associate Justice of the Southern Berkshire District Court in March 1994, and named Presiding Justice of the Pittsfield District Court in January 2007 as well as Presiding Justice of Southern Berkshire District Court in November 2013. Appointed to the District Court Appellate Division in 1998 and served until 2010; appointed as Chair of the District Court Committee on Civil Proceedings in 1998 and served until 2011; appointed to the Supreme Judicial Court's Standing Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure in 2001 and appointed as its Chair in September 2008, served as Chair through April 2015. Member of Board of Directors [2006-2010], and a Vice President of the Massachusetts Judges' Conference [2008 to 2010]. Judge Rutberg is one of four principals of Birdland Acquisition, LLC, the entity that purchased The Berkshire Eagle and its sister publications in May 2016.

Lisa Donovan, Ph.D. is a Professor in the Fine and Performing Arts Department at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Previously, she served as Associate Professor of Education and Division Director of Lesley University’s Creative Arts in Learning Division. Lisa has broad experience working as an arts educator and administrator in a variety of arts organizations including Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, Berkshire Opera Company, Barrington Stage Company, University of Massachusetts’ Department of Theater, Boston University's Theater, Visual Arts and Tanglewood Institutes, and also served as Executive Director of the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts Education. Donovan is the co-editor and co-author of a five book series on arts integration with Shell Publishing. She has received funding from the Ford Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts for research on arts education. Lisa is a member of the Arts Education Partnership’s National Strategic Planning Advisory Committee and serves on the ArtsEdSearch Research Advisory Board. In Berkshire County she is cofounder of the Berkshire Arts Education Network, and a member of the Professional Learning Network for arts specialists in Berkshire County. She has also designed professional development offerings in STEAM topics through an Improving Teacher Quality grant for early childhood educators. Lisa lives with her husband Rick and sons Alexander and Jack in Lee, Massachusetts.
Roberta McCulloch-Dews currently serves as Director of Administrative Services within the Office of the Mayor for the city of Pittsfield and is also the founder of RMDews Media. A communications professional with over 15 years of experience, Roberta began her career as a newspaper journalist, and later transitioned to marketing communications and public relations. In the Berkshires, her roles have included that of communications liaison for the CEO of Berkshire Health Systems, as well as several positions at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts including Web Communications Manager, Assistant to the President, and Assistant Director of Communications. Roberta serves as a trustee on the boards of the Norman Rockwell Museum and Elizabeth Freeman Center, and is affiliated with the Berkshire County chapter of the NAACP and Lift Ev’ry Voice Festival Steering Committee. She serves as a youth mentor with the Rites of Passage Empowerment Program (R.O.P.E); and serves on both the Salvation Army Advisory Committee and School Building Needs Committee for the Central Berkshire Regional School District. She served on the Berkshire County Commission on the Status of Women. In 2015, Roberta was selected as a finalist for the Berkshire Trendsetters Changemaker under 40 award, and in 2016 Roberta was a part of the inaugural class of 40 Under Forty, selected by Berkshire Community College. She graduated from New York University (NYU) with a bachelor’s degree in Print Journalism, and is an alumna of the Leadership for Public Policy and Impact (LIPPI) program. Roberta and her husband, Warren Dews, Jr., have three children, Warren III, West, and Kennedy.

Senator Benjamin B. Downing (D- Pittsfield) was first elected to the Massachusetts Senate in 2006 and was re-elected in 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. Senator Downing represents the 52 communities of the Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin & Hampden District.

Senator Downing serves as the Senate chairman of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, which is tasked with reviewing all legislative matters concerning renewable and non-renewable energy sources. He is also the chairman of the Senate Committee on Redistricting and serves as vice-chairman of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development as well as vice-chairman of the Senate Committee on Post Audit & Oversight. He is an active, ranking member of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and serves on several other Senate and joint committees. Additionally, Senator Downing serves as co-chairman of the Gateway Cities Caucus and is an active participant of both the Regional Transit Authorities (RTA) Caucus and the Regional Schools Caucus.

A Pittsfield native, Senator Downing received his B.A. in Political Science from Providence College in 2003. In May 2008 he received a M.A. from Tufts University’s Department of Urban and Environment Policy & Planning. Senator Downing’s family has a long history of public service. He is the oldest of four children (Maggie, Nate and Nick) raised by the late Berkshire District Attorney Gerard and Pamela Downing. He is married to Micaelah B. Morrill.

Berkshire Children & Families’ Kids 4 Harmony, established in 2011, is a new paradigm for social change. The program is inspired by El Sistema, a visionary global movement that began in 1975 in Caracas, Venezuela. Through intensive, early classical music education, El Sistema’s founder sought to transform the lives of children with little access to opportunity.

Now with a worldwide presence, El Sistema has achieved unparalleled success in teaching children to learn and play orchestral music. The El Sistema approach simultaneously uplifts the children, their families and their communities. El Sistema’s mission perfectly parallels the goals of BCF: to improve the lives of children by strengthening family and community relationships.

Kids 4 Harmony meets after school several days a week at Morningside Community School in Pittsfield and Brayton Elementary School in North Adams, MA. Children learn to sing, play an instrument, and read music. In the pursuit of musical excellence, students develop discipline, self-confidence, social and collective responsibility. These are tools that lead children to success not only in music, but in anything else they may aspire to do.
A Great Place to Live

A new group of urban transplants has joined Berkshire natives and made the conscious choice to live a life of grounded, rural sophistication. Residents in the area describe themselves as creative, charming, and inspiring; approachable and friendly.

The area abounds with world renowned performing arts, award-winning theaters, one-of-a-kind museums, and health and wellness retreats. All of these bring international attention to the region and provide residents and visitors with a multitude of opportunities to easily access high-quality programs.

Primary and secondary homeowners are a well-educated, widely traveled population that includes many creative people from New York, Boston, and every corner of the globe. The Berkshires is a region rich in community and with a passionate commitment to the arts. It is not all that surprising that a place of the Berkshires’ singular beauty and tranquility has helped breathe life into so many creative individuals and places.

Here, life simply moves at a different pace.

The Berkshires - Quick Facts

32 unique cities/towns/communities in Berkshire County
33% of the land is protected open spaces, 80% of which is open to the public for recreation
8% of the land is developed, primarily for residential purposes
50% of the population is concentrated in Pittsfield and North Adams
Berkshire County has a growing immigrant population from around the world
88% of businesses have less than 20 employees
Largest employers: Berkshire Health Systems, General Dynamics, Williams College
Regional health care highly rated with new state-of-the-art cancer center

(Sources: Berkshire Regional Planning; Berkshire County Regional Employment Board, and US Census Data)
The Berkshires’ Special Ingredients

A gorgeous setting with colorful mountain panoramas, sparkling lakes, and fresh air.

- A well-known brand synonymous with fine arts underscoring the areas’ timelessness
- Proximity (2.5 hours) to both metropolitan Boston and New York City
- World-renowned performing arts and iconic historic sites and museums
- An abundance of four-season outdoor recreational opportunities
- High caliber amenities focused on health, wellness, tranquility, and rejuvenation
- A celebrated food scene with a passion for farm freshness and quality cuisine
- Celebrity laden summer stock theater and award-winning original works
- Year-round events at meticulously restored historic movie houses
- Vibrant main streets and traditional village areas with distinct identities and festivals
- 100+ cultural nonprofits with sustained economic growth and private support
- Quality education anchored by Williams College and highly reputed summer camps
- A committed community of engaged residents who choose to live here
- A rich history of innovation, stewardship, preservation, collaboration, and entrepreneurialism
- A surge in development and investment in year-round hospitality and visitor experiences
- Loyal visitors that have generational attachments to the region and return year after year
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1Berkshire is a county-wide organization focused on economic development and on promoting the region as a preferred place to visit, to live, and to grow a business. It provides programs that connect businesses with each other and with potential customers, as well as work to develop future leaders and support entrepreneurs. 1Berkshire is the result of the merger between the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, the Berkshire Visitors Bureau, and Berkshire Creative.

Location: Lenox, Photo Credit: Ogden Gigli
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<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Boston Office</th>
<th>Western Massachusetts Office</th>
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<td>Governor</td>
<td>Charles D. Baker</td>
<td>Massachusetts State House Office of the Governor</td>
<td>Western Massachusetts Office of the Governor</td>
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<td>Room 280</td>
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<td>Boston, MA 02133</td>
<td>436 Dwight Street, Suite 300</td>
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<td>Phone: (617)725-4005</td>
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<td>Lieutenant Governor</td>
<td>Karyn E. Politio</td>
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<td>One Ashburton Place</td>
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<td>McCormack Building</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>William Francis Galvin</td>
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<td>Deborah B. Goldberg</td>
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<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>Maura Healey</td>
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<td>U.S. Senator</td>
<td>Elizabeth Warren</td>
<td>2400 JFK Federal Building 15</td>
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<td>Richard Neal</td>
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<td>State Senator</td>
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<td>Representative</td>
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<td>Representative</td>
<td>Paul W. Mark</td>
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<td>Representative</td>
<td>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</td>
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<td>Representative</td>
<td>William &quot;Smitty&quot; Pignatelli</td>
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128,715 Full Time Residents (-13.8% since 1970)
28,436 residents under age 20 (-48% since 1970)

8,003 Second Homes
a 340% increase since 1970

39.9% (37,235) of adults have an Associate’s Degree or higher compared to 47.7% of the state

Berkshire County is ranked 11th out of 14 counties in Massachusetts for overall health
Berkshire County has the highest rate of opioid-related hospital visits in the state
15,746 Individuals (12.2%) are in poverty

4,597 Children under 18 (18.9%) are in poverty

Residents with SNAP benefits have increased by 67% since 2009 to 8,118 residents

Median Household Income has stayed constant since 2009 at around $49,000, while the state has increased by 5.2% to almost $68,000

North County: $49,339
Central County: $47,780
South County: $56,980

Ratio of Home Value to Income
North—340% average
Central—360% average
South—680% average

Residents with SNAP benefits have increased by 67% since 2009 to 8,118 residents

Source: US Census, American Community Survey 2010-2014

The three largest municipalities (Adams, North Adams and Pittsfield) are expected to reach their maximum tax capacity by 2020.

Source: Ma DOR 2016, BRPC
Nonprofit Collaborations

**Berkshire Nonprofit Business Network**

**Focus:** The NBN was launched in 2012 to provide networking and professional development opportunities for nonprofit business professionals. (developed Berkshire Nonprofit Solutions-see below)

**Goal:** Facilitate collaboration on projects that will benefit the nonprofit sector and the overall community.

**Contact:** 1Berkshire  
www.1Berkshire.com  
economicdev@1berkshire.com  
(414) 499-1600 – Economic Development Team at 1Berkshire

**Berkshire Nonprofit Solutions**

**Focus:** Supports opportunities for nonprofits in Berkshire County to meet the challenges ahead through shared service arrangements, joint ventures, subsidiary relationships and mergers by promoting significant and meaningful organizational integration offering consulting expertise to help nonprofits meet today’s challenges.

**Goal:** To increase service delivery or long-term financial stability and to save programs and services that might otherwise be cut without an affiliation.

**Contact:** 1Berkshire  
www.1Berkshire.com  
economicdev@1berkshire.com  
(414) 499-1600 – Economic Development Team at 1Berkshire

**Economic**

**1Berkshire**

**Focus:** County-wide organization focused on economic development by providing programs that connect businesses with each other and with potential customers, as well as working to develop future leaders and support entrepreneurs.

**Goal:** Promotion of region as a preferred place to visit, to live, and to grow a business.

**Contact:** 1Berkshire  
66 Allen Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
www.1Berkshire.com  
info@1berkshire.com  
(414) 499-1600 – Economic Development Team at 1Berkshire
**Berkshire Initiative for Growth (BIG)**

**Focus:** BIG has convened to develop and mobilize resources to attract more young adults and families to our region. The effort is coordinated by 1Berkshire, and includes community leaders and young adults participating in the task force.

**Goal:** BIG has both short and long-term strategies for attracting more young people, and also seeks to support existing groups and organizations throughout our community who are working toward the same goal.

**Contact:** 1Berkshire  
www.1Berkshire.com  
economicdev@1berkshire.com  
(414) 499-1600 – Economic Development Team at 1Berkshire

**Berkshire Innovation Center (BIC)**

**Focus:** A catalyst to enable innovation and accelerate growth for manufacturing companies in the Berkshire Region including Life Sciences, the Life Sciences Supply Chain, Advanced Manufacturing and Technology through our training facility for employees, college interns, entrepreneurs or high school students participating in science fairs or robotics challenges. (A new facility is under construction in the William Stanley Business Park in Pittsfield while classes continue throughout the region.)

**Goal:** To be the go-to place for manufacturers, engineers, and students to learn, work innovate and build prototypes for the advancement of Life Science and Technology industries in the Berkshire region.

**Contact:** Mr. Rod Jane  
(508) 366-4859  
rodjane@neexpansion.com  
www.berkshireinnovationcenter.com  
(Sign up on the website for information on progress of new facility)

**Berkshire Funders Roundtable**

**Focus:** Consists of representatives from area funders who meet to exchange information on and share observations about the nonprofit sector.

**Goal:** Increase effective philanthropy in Berkshire County.

**Contact:** Ms. Lori Gazzillo  
Berkshire Bank Foundation  
24 North Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01202  
(413) 236-3733  
LGazzillo@berkshirebank.com
Children Youth and Family Support

**Berkshire Priorities** (Pittsfield Promise, Chapter one, Our Towns, Our Kids, Our Future):

**Focus:** Mobilizes the Berkshire County community to ensure our children develop the dynamic package of cognitive, social, emotional, physical and character skills needed for success in school and life.

**Goals (Pittsfield Promise)** By 2020, 90% of Pittsfield students will achieve reading proficiency as demonstrated by 3rd grade standardized tests.

**Goals (Chapter One, Our Towns, Our Kids, Our Future):**

**Face the Facts: Reduce Teen Pregnancy**

**Focus:** To reduce teen birth rate in Berkshire County through increasing access and awareness of reproductive healthcare for teens, advocating for comprehensive reproductive health curriculum in all of county’s middle and high schools, increasing parents’ ability to speak to their children about puberty and reproductive health, and broadly increasing knowledge and awareness through a comprehensive countywide marketing campaign.

**Goal:** After attaining our goal in 2014 to reduce the teen birth rate in Berkshire County by 50% (based on 2009 rate), we have set the ambitious goal of reducing the current rate by another 50%.

**Contact:** Berkshire United Way
info@berkshireunitedway.org
www.berkshireunitedway.org
(413) 442-6948

**Berkshire Youth Development Project**

**Focus:** Collaborate countywide with the partner agencies to decrease youth alcohol and marijuana use. Collaborative projects include the annual Rx Round Up, the 411 in the 413 Youth Conference, the Prevention Needs Assessment Survey, and the Youth Worker Training Summit. Starting in 2016, BYDP has begun to tackle the upcoming ballot question to legalize recreational marijuana and the potential effect of legalization.

**Goal:** The goal of Berkshire Youth Development Project is to strengthen the capacity of partner organizations to collaborate around issues of alcohol and substance abuse.

**Contacts:**

Ms. Amber Besaw
Northern Berkshire Community Coalition
abesaw@nbccoalition.org
(413) 442-7588

Berkshire United Way
info@berkshireunitedway.org
www.berkshireunitedway.org
(413) 442-6948

Ms. Ananda Timpane,
Executive Director
ananda@rsyp.org
Railroad Street Youth Project
www.rsyp.org
60 Bridge Street, P.O. Box 698
Great Barrington, MA 01230
(413) 528-2475
info@rsyp.org
**Berkshire Bridges Transformational Movement/Working Cities**

**Focus:** For all people in Pittsfield to experience a just, thriving, and safe community.

**Goal:** Support journey from poverty to sustainability by collaboratively building community resources, removing barriers; improve individual, institutional, and social fairness and respect in the community; create new systems and models for worker training and retention; shift hiring practices; empower under-resourced neighbors; and shift public, private, and nonprofit culture to be inclusive and responsive.

**Contact:**
Ms. Carolyn Valli  
Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity  
cvalli@berkshirehabitat.org  
www.berkshirehabitat.org  
cbhabitat@gmail.com  
314 Columbus Ave.  
Pittsfield, MA  01201  
(413) 442-3181

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**Education**

**Berkshire Compact**

**Focus:** The Berkshire Compact for Education is a group of regional civic, education and business leaders who seek to ensure the well-being of each individual and the strength of our economy and community by raising the educational access, aspirations and attainment of Berkshire County residents.

**Goal:** Encouraging every resident of Berkshire County to attain at least 16 years of education and training and accept it as the educational norm; improve access to education, training and lifelong learning; develop a new "social contract" among employers, employees, and educational institutions that encourages and promotes learning, earning and civic engagement.

**Contact:**
Dr. Howard J. Eberwein  
Dean of Graduate & Continuing Education  
MCLA  
(413) 662-5201  
Howard.J.Eberwein@mcla.edu  
www.mcla.edu/About_MCLA/area/berkshirecompact
**Berkshire County Education Task Force**

**Focus:** To advance solutions that we recommend be enacted to address the problems public school districts are faced with in Berkshire County: decline in student enrollment, rising operational costs, declining/flat revenues leading to additional financial burden to towns and municipalities, reductions in the diversity and range of educational programs available to students.

**Goal:** Improve access, diversity, breadth and quality of educational programs for children county-wide so they are fully prepared for college, career and a life here in the Berkshires.

**Contact:** Dr. Howard J. Eberwein  
Dean of Graduate & Continuing Education, MCLA  
Howard.J.Eberwein@mcla.edu  
www.berkshireeducation.org  
(visit website for committee members by county)  
(413) 662-5201

**Berkshire County Superintendents Roundtable**

**Focus:** The Berkshire County Superintendents' Roundtable is the organization that represents all of the public school districts in the County. The members of the Roundtable consist of the 12 Superintendents in Berkshire County (representing all of the public school districts in the County) who meet monthly.

**Goal:** To share information, organize and present professional development activities, and collaborate with county community and cultural organizations as well as institutions of higher learning.

**Contact:** Mr. William Ballen, Executive Secretary  
WilliamBallen270@hotmail.com  
(413) 446-1196

**Health**

**Berkshire Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative:**

**Focus:** Develop and implement local policies, practices, systems and environmental changes to prevent the misuse or abuse of opioids, prevent or reduce unintentional deaths and non-fatal hospital events associated with opioid poisonings, and increase the capacity of municipalities to deal with the growing problem.

**Goal:** Opiate and heroin abuse is a huge and rapidly growing problem in Berkshire County. It was recently referred to as a budding epidemic by a representative to our local Drug Task Force. This collaborative effort seeks to stop this problem before it gets out of hand.

**Contact:** Ms. Jennifer Kimball  
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission  
jkimball@berkshireplanning.org  
1 Fenn Street, Suite 201  
Pittsfield, MA 01201-6629  
www.berkshireplanning.org  
(413) 442-1521
**County Health Initiative/ Berkshire Partnership for Health:**

**Focus:** CHI is made up of diverse organizations across the Berkshires. Though each organization has a different mission, their vision is the same. They want our community to become the healthiest county in Massachusetts and the nation. The CHI was modeled after the Collective Impact model. Their actions are supported by shared outcome goals, activities such as their bi-annual stakeholder meetings, ongoing communication at their monthly leadership meetings and are led by a backbone agency- Berkshire Health Systems. CHI has already launched several successful programs to identify and respond to community needs that are helping to drive Berkshire County towards better health. Berkshire Partnership for Health is CHI’s latest initiative.

**Goal:** Berkshire County was ranked 11th out of 14 counties in Massachusetts for the length and quality of life and 9th in health factors in 2014. We seek to improve healthcare by supporting evidence-based community and clinical prevention strategies, decreasing preventable risk factors and illness, and improving the management of chronic disease. We offer health and wellness programs and services for free.

**Contact:**
Ms. Kimberly Kelly
Berkshire Health Systems
kkelly@bhs1.org
(413) 447-2000
725 North Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

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**Berkshire Public Health Alliance**

**Focus:** A collaboration among 22 Berkshire communities who have signed an Inter-Municipal Agreement to provide professional public health services and programs for the member communities.

**Goal:** To improve the delivery of public health services and thereby improve the overall health and well-being of Berkshire County residents.

**Contact:**
Laura Kittross
Berkshire Public Health Alliance
LKittross@berkshireplanning.org
1 Fenn Street, Suite #201
Pittsfield, MA 01201
(413) 442-1521 ext.37
www.berkshireplanning.org/major-initiatives/berkshire-public-health-alliance
Berkshire Arts Education Regional Initiatives

**Arts Specialists Professional Learning Network** (Berkshire County Superintendents’ Roundtable)

**Focus:** Ten Professional Learning Networks for area Education Specialists are overseen by William Ballen, a retired Berkshire County School Superintendent. Retired art specialist, Mary Beth Eldridge, leads the Arts PLN. There are app.130 arts education specialists (art, music, performing arts) across the county. The Arts Professional Learning Network reviews and researches best practices in arts education, and offers high quality professional development for the educators.

**Goal:** To effectively use the rich cultural resources available, the PLN seeks greater engagement with the county’s cultural institutions.

**Contact:**
- William Ballen
  williamballen270@hotmail.com
- Mary Beth Eldridge
  mbeldridge55@gmail.com

**Berkshire Arts Education Network** (MCLA)

**Focus:** The Berkshire Arts Education Network is a regional collaborative of schools, cultural groups and arts providers from Berkshire County.

**Goal:** To link interest and expertise to advance arts education in this rural region.

**Contact:**
- Dr. Lisa Donovan
  Professor
  Fine and Performing Arts Department
  Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
  322D Bowman Hall
  North Adams, MA 01247
  Lisa.Donovan@mcla.edu
  413-662-5581

**Berkshire Hills Internship Program** (MCLA Berkshire Cultural Resource Center and MCLA Arts Management Program)

**Focus:** B-HIP is an intensive arts management internship program that combines hands-on work experience with classes taught by arts administration arts management faculty, talk backs with the area’s leading arts professionals, and the chance to fully participate in cultural events throughout Berkshire County.

**Goal:** to link young professionals with high-level internships in arts culture.

**Contact:**
- Jennifer Crowell
  Director, Berkshire Cultural Resource Center
  51 Main Street, North Adams, MA 01247
  413-662-5320
  jennifer.crowell@mcla.edu
The Planning Committee of the Berkshire Summit for Nonprofits:

Berkshire Children and Families: Carolyn Burns

Berkshire Playwrights Lab: Ann Garner

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation: Peter Taylor, Justin Burke

Berkshire United Way: Kristine Hazzard

Boston Symphony Orchestra: Kim Noltemy

Hevreh of Southern Berkshires: Rabbi Neil P.G. Hirsch

is183, Art School of the Berkshires: Hope Sullivan

Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival: Pamela Tatge, Andrea Sholler

Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center: Beryl Jolly

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts: Lisa Donovan, Ph.D

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, BCC: Megan Whilden

Special Thanks:

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