

FEBRUARY 2024

GROWTH RINGS

APPALACHIAN FOREST NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA NEWSLETTER



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Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area promotes and supports a network of partnerships based around our unique Forest Heritage. We work in 16 West Virginia counties and 2 counties in Western Maryland.

To learn more about us and the work we do, including our AmeriCorps program, visit afnha.org.



Happy Black History Month!

Enjoy these stories and resources about Black history in our region:

[Katherine Johnson: NASA Mathematician](#)

Down the road from the Green Bank Telescope is the hometown of a person who helped pave the way for space exploration. NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson was born in White Sulphur Springs in 1918. At Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, Katherine was invited to work with the space task force and was the only non-white, non-male team member who worked to get a man to space.

Read more of our latest America250 story [HERE!](#)

Other America250 stories:

[Emmanuel Parish & the Underground Railroad](#)

[J.R. Clifford & Carrie Williams: Civil Rights Pioneers](#)

Find more Black history resources [on our website!](#)



AmeriCorps Site Applications

Does your organization have projects that need help? Does your non-profit or government agency need more staff, volunteers, or capacity? Consider hosting an AmeriCorps Member!

AFNHA is seeking applications from non-profit organizations or government agencies as sub-sponsor sites for AmeriCorps members. Positions are available for the full 24-25 program year, or short-term positions for the remainder of 23-24 service term. This includes project-based positions related to educational stewardship, environmental conservation, community development, and/or cultural heritage.

Contact us at afnha@afnha.org for application, instructions, or more information. Applications will be due Monday April 8.



Highlands Creative Economy

Through our Highlands Creative Economy program, AFNHA will make limited funds available to support local Tourism Summits and Familiarization Tours (“fam tours”) that promote regional collaboration, networking, awareness, and support.

Organizations planning to conduct Tourism Summits this year may apply to HCE to support event related costs such as: presenter honoraria, venue, handouts and educational materials, and/or food for attendees. Successful applications will emphasize quality communication and outreach with content meant to meet the needs of the organization's beneficiaries ([application](#)).

Organizations organizing themed fam tours may apply for event related costs such as food for attendees, travel support, and/or tour guide services. The target audience will be business owners, staff, and volunteers for attractions, businesses, and visitor centers ([application](#)).

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis as funds are available. The current program year's funding is limited per applicant, though more may be available in subsequent years.



HIGHLANDS
CREATIVE ECONOMY

Events

Appalachian Forest Grants Event

Feb 21 | [Woodland Heritage Lecture Series](#) | Kump House

Regional Events

Feb 17 | [Mountain State Maple Days](#)

Feb 17 | [Winter Fest](#) | Oakland

Feb 17 | [Ken Nolan & The Rhythm Section](#) | Ashby's Fort

Feb 18 | [Wild Food Cookoff](#) | The Tractor Bar

Feb 22 | [Square Dance](#) | 17 North Event Center

Feb 22-25 | [Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting](#)

Feb 23 | ["O Pioneer" Film Screening](#) | Colonial Arts Center

Feb 24 | [Appalachian Voices](#) | Arthurdale Heritage

Feb 24 | [Thriftcon](#) | Seneca Mall

Feb 24 | [Turtle Crafts](#) | Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Feb 26 | [Appalachian Film Series](#) | Online

March 2 | [The Bing Brothers ft. Jake Krack](#) | Pocahontas County Opera House

March 9 | [Shamrock Shuffle](#) | Frostburg

March 9-10 | [Potomac Highlands Outdoor Show](#) | Hampshire County Fairgrounds

March 16 | [Mac & Cheese Cook Off](#) | Cowen Municipal Building

March 19 | [Greenbrier Valley Tourism Summit](#)

Regional News

Marylands State Arts Council accepting applications for their [Folklife Apprenticeship](#)

Volunteer West Virginia accepting nominations for the [Governor's Service Awards](#)

West Virginia begins taking applications for first-ever [Governor's School for Tourism](#)



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