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CultureWorks Announces First Annual artoberVA

The nonprofit organization plans a month-long celebration of arts and culture for the Richmond and Tri-Cities Region of Virginia.

RICHMOND, VA, June 1, 2016 – The Richmond and Tri-Cities Region has long been a thriving arts and culture community, with talented creators and supportive patrons. Now, nonprofit organization [CultureWorks](#) has a plan to spread the word to the rest of the world.

CultureWorks is devoted to providing funding, encouraging creative people, and inviting the public to join them in continuing to build a community rich with arts and culture. With that in mind, CultureWorks has announced the first annual [artoberVA](#), which the organization describes as a month-long celebration of arts and culture.

The celebration will take place each October in an effort to increase awareness of and participation in arts and culture offerings across the Richmond and Tri-Cities Region. artoberVA will happen in conjunction with National Arts and Humanities Month, but that's not the only reason CultureWorks chose October.

"artoberVA is about celebrating the many arts and cultural offerings in our region, and October is chock-full of great events every year," says Scott Garka, president of CultureWorks.

"Theaters' new seasons are getting under way, galleries and museums have exhibits opening, the weather is terrific to experience historic sites and outdoor events, and of course there are festivals like the Richmond Folk Festival, the Second Street Festival, and more. All of these make up the vibrant arts and culture scene across our region!"

In the development of artoberVA, CultureWorks took inspiration from the thriving arts and culture community of Nashville, Tenn.

"On last year's InterCity Visit to Nashville, I met with a colleague at Nashville's Metro Arts Commission," Garka says. "Nashville has had great success with a similar event for over 5 years now. I visited again last Fall to experience artober Nashville for myself and was impressed at the many ways it showed up in their community. Local residents I spoke with told me that they look forward to and plan their calendars around artober every year because they know there will be so much going on and they want experience as much of it as they can. So we're building off the successes seen in Nashville and making this unique to our region."

CultureWorks has made collaboration and participation priorities for artoberVA, so they stress the importance of the community getting involved. They invite businesses, arts and culture organizations, artists, and everyone else in the community to be a part of artoberVA. To learn more about how to participate, visit [artoberVA's website](#).

“artoberVA is for our region’s arts and culture organizations, the practicing artists, and the community as whole,” Garka says. “Already we are seeing organizations come together on ideas to create even more compelling experiences for our region. With so much going on throughout the month, this is the perfect chance for each and every resident to get out and try that new thing you’ve always thought about but haven’t gotten around to yet, and maybe discover something new that you’ll love for a lifetime.”

In the coming months, look for updates on everything going on in the Richmond and Tri-Cities Region arts and culture community. Make sure you don’t miss anything by signing up for our [newsletter](#), following us on [Twitter](#), liking us on [Facebook](#), and following us on [Instagram](#).

About CultureWorks

CultureWorks is an independently funded 501(c)(3) organization committed to driving a vibrant community in the Richmond and Tri-Cities region through arts and culture. Playing an impactful role for the region as a primary source of cultural information and opportunities, providing important assistance and financial opportunities for arts and culture organizations and artists, and driving collaboration among these groups and throughout the community. CultureWorks serves an array of constituents from individual practicing artists to large well-established cultural nonprofits, from the general public to government entities.

For additional information telephone [804-340-5280](tel:804-340-5280) or visit www.richmondcultureworks.org.

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