



December 2022

MAD Elections and Voting

There will be no membership meeting this year (though members are always welcome to attend Board meetings). Voting for the new Executive Council will be held electronically as we have the past few years. All active voting members will receive an email invitation to vote today, December 16. Follow the links provided and vote online by the deadline of Saturday, December 31. There is a space for write-ins on the electronic ballot. If you feel that you should have received an e-mail invitation to vote today and do not, please contact Randy Barth at Randy.Barth@comcast.net. The current ballot for the 2023 Executive Council is as follows:

President: Michael Silber
Vice President: Vacant
Treasurer: Dave Buckingham
Secretary: Suzanne Smith
Property Manager: Linda Pattison

The new Executive Council will vote on functional managers and coordinators at their first meeting in the new year.

MAD Goes Live?

Do you miss doing live theater, in person on a stage with your fellow actors, singers, dancers, musicians, and comedians? Well, you can do something about it!

That's right, MAD is looking to have a live, in person Spring Music and Drama variety show in the tradition of past Spring Shows. We would be able to do this in the Building 3 auditorium (as several past Spring Shows have been done).

MAD is looking for someone to take on the role of overall Artistic Director to coordinate the effort. Details can be worked out as to the form the show takes. Acts such as music (singing or instrumental), one-act plays, cuttings, scenes, monologues, for single performers or small groups can be selected, rehearse at home or with the participation of the Artistic Director (or individual directors for each act), whatever works best these days.

This call is to see if there is someone who can shepherd the idea and take charge of the show (not necessarily direct each act). If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact Eliot Malumuth (eliotmal@me.com, 301-332-7438).

MAD Holiday Chorus Update

From Producer Kathy Nieman: The MAD Holiday Chorus (seventeen members), under the direction of Christine Wells and accompanied by Susan Breon, sang at the Maryland Space Business Roundtable luncheon on December 13 at Martin's Crosswinds. The Chorus enjoyed a fantastic lunch and an appreciative audience. Thanks to all who participated!

MAD Board Meeting

The next MAD Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12th, at 5:30 PM via Zoom. All club members are welcome to attend. Please email madboard@googlegroups.com if you would like the Zoom link to attend.

MAD About Town

The Chromatics (including MAD members **Alan Smale, Padi Boyd, and Karen Smale**) will be performing at the Greenbelt Arts Center on December 10, 11, and 17. The all-a-cappella show, this year billed as

"Returning Presence," will include holiday tunes, originals, and covers. After a two-year hiatus, we're back at GAC for our annual holiday performance. Join us as we celebrate the season! More information: <https://www.greenbeltartscenter.org/>

From **Don and Sherry Mitchell** ("Around the World in 80 Days"): "We be part of the mass choir participating in the annual "Messiah Sing-along" at the Kennedy Center on December 23 at 6:30 pm. Tickets are free, and available on the day of the performance on a first-come first-serve basis from the Hall of Nations. I'm told people line up for hours. We did this once before, and it was a blast."

John McCloskey and **Katrina Jackson** have been working on a series of videos chronicling John's 20-year journey working on the James Webb Space Telescope. John plans to start sending links out between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you would like to be included on his distribution list, please e-mail him at meepandmyrna@verizon.net.

Jill Goodrich will be appearing in "Men on Boats" with Silver Spring Stage which runs from February 3-19. This account of a geological expedition down the Green and Colorado Rivers in 1869 is based on the journals of John Wesley Powell and his crew of pioneers. These historical figures were all cisgender white males; the cast portraying them will be made up entirely of people who are not. In this bold and refreshing approach, the play bridges the gap between then and now in ways that highlight the ludicrous arrogance of the Western colonizers while recognizing their bravery and fearlessness. The theatrical dissonance between the performer and the role allows for comedy, commentary, and satire, offering the audience a chance to reconsider a moment in history without being beholden to the men whose voices have traditionally dominated our understanding of it. See ssstage.org for tickets.

MAD Congratulations

James Webb Space Telescope Deputy Senior Project Scientist **Dr. Jonathan Gardner** has been awarded the 2022 John C. Lindsay Memorial Award for Space Science, the highest such space science honor bestowed by the center. JWST recently began its science operations, and Jon has demonstrated exceptional leadership of the mission's science teams. He joins an esteemed [list](#) of Goddard luminaries who have received this honor, and he will be presented the award at a future Goddard Scientific Colloquium. Congratulations Jon!

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