

Press Release

For Immediate Release: March 4, 2008

For More Information: Polly Adema at (845) 454-3222

Arts Organization Presents a Multi-cultural "Egg-Stravaganza"

The Dutchess County Arts Council Folk Arts Program presents "Egg-stravaganza," an interactive, egg-themed program on March 29, 2008, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, at the Muddy Cup Coffee House in Poughkeepsie. Egg-stravaganza, a participatory, multi-cultural program, highlights ways that different cultural groups living in the Mid-Hudson Valley use eggs as food, as artistic vessel, and as symbol.

Included in the egg-centric program are representatives from the regional chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, who will demonstrate the colorful, intricate egg-coloring tradition of *pysanky*; a Mexican couple who will talk about and make traditional *cascarones*, or confetti-filled colored eggshells; a Jewish woman who will interpret the symbolic significance of eggs at the Passover Seder; and Anglo-Americans who will demonstrate the seasonal custom of dyeing eggs. Also on display will be artifacts and photographs from an Ulster County egg farm, and Italian *uova di Pasqua* or *uova di cioccolata con teluche*, traditional surprise-containing chocolate Easter eggs. In addition to interacting with practitioners of these various egg traditions, guests will be able to make a *cascarone* or paint a colored egg to take home with them.

Visitors are welcome to come and go at this family friendly event. Admission is free and open to the public. The Muddy Cup Coffee House is located at 305 Main Street in Poughkeepsie. For additional information, contact Polly Adema, DCAC Staff Folklorist at 845-454-3222 or visit the Arts Council's website at www.artsmidhudson.org.

The DCAC Folk Arts Program researches and presents the arts and traditions that form our diverse communities' cultural heritages. Through educational public programs, the Folk Arts Program interprets the traditions of ethnic, occupational, and religious groups in the Mid-Hudson region.

Egg-stravaganza

March 29, 2008 2:00pm-4:00pm

Muddy Cup Coffee House (305 Main Street, Poughkeepsie)

Free and open to the public

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