



2020 Highlight
Programming



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Public Programs

Grace Farms is a place for meaningful interaction and a platform for creative minds, leaders, and organizations to collaborate for good. Each year, Grace Farms offers hundreds of public programs, including special performances, lectures, community dinners, recreational activities, and tours.

The 2020 programming guide provides highlights and information about many of this year's offerings at Grace Farms. We invite you to join us to experience nature, encounter the arts, foster community, pursue justice, and explore faith through these diverse programs.

Please visit gracefarms.org for updated information about these and other programs.

January

January 17, 2020

**A Framework for Freedom |
Creating Partnerships to
Combat Modern Slavery**

7:30 - 9 pm

Join Rod Khattabi, Chief Accountability Officer and Justice Initiative Director, and Alina Reynolds, Senior Advisor to the Justice Initiative, as they lead a panel during National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month to discuss the critical role that public-private partnerships play in eradicating modern slavery.

February

February 21, 2020

**In Pursuit of Flourishing Life |
Is College the Key?**

7:30 - 9 pm

—
Dr. Matthew Croasmun, Faith Initiative Director at Grace Farms Foundation, and Lecturer of Humanities at Yale University; Dr. Karen E. Eshoo, Head of School at King School; and Dr. Frank Bartolomeo, Director of Adolescent Services at Silver Hill; lead a discussion about how the college prep and application processes can reveal and shape both parents' and students' visions of flourishing life.

February 25, April 14, June 9, 2020
Books on Faith & Meaning Series |
Conversations with
Dr. Matthew Croasmun

1 - 2 pm

—
Introduction to selections from the Faith & Meaning section of the Grace Farms Library, spanning multiple religious and philosophical traditions, both ancient and contemporary.



March

Making Space for Women Series

March 1 - 31
Making Space for Women Series | Free Public & Private Events
—
In honor of both International Women's Day and Women's History Month, our Community Initiative hosts a series of events supporting women and girls. Led in collaboration with international and local women leaders by Karen Kariuki, our Community Initiative & Strategic Partnerships Director, these events range from small dialogues to larger public programs.

March 1 - 31

Featured Titles in the Library

—
Visit Grace Farms' Library to discover a selection of books about women's history and the empowerment of women and girls. Our featured titles are offered at a 10% discount during the month of March.

March 5

Navigating New Pathways

10 - 11:30 am

—

Jamie Renwick and Sophie Koven of Tide Risers facilitate a community gathering of women considering the next stage in their professional and personal journeys.

March 14

Movement and Meditation Workshop

10:00 am - 11:30 am

—

Girls, ages 8-13, are invited to an interactive workshop, led by Pilin Anice, Wellness Expert, guiding them through mindfulness, self-expression, and discovering the power of themselves and their communities.

March 20

Amplifying Equality

7:30 - 9 pm

—

Join Annette Richardson, Senior Advisor to the United Nations, for a conversation about the local, national, and international models of gender equality that are driving change in today's world.



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April

April 1 – May 20

Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Course

–
Taught by Dr. Brandon Nappi, Founder and Executive Director of Copper Beech Institute, this 8-week Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) course provides participants with the tools to help cultivate greater mindfulness in their day-to-day lives.

April 17 & 18

50TH Anniversary of Earth Day | A Bright Future

–
Join Grace Farms Foundation as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day with programs and activities,

including:

- Source to Sound, a clean-up of the Five Mile River watershed;
- an expert-led panel discussion on how far we've come and solutions for the future; and
- a full day of programs and activities demonstrating the nature-based solutions that are leading the way to a bright future.

April 25

Architect of Hope

Darren Walker

4 - 6 pm

–
Ford Foundation President, Darren Walker, discusses his bold new vision for philanthropy that advances economic, social, and political justice, drawing

from his newly released book, *From Generosity to Justice: A New Gospel of Wealth*.

May

May 14

Innovation and Impact Series | Counting Communities

10 - 11:30 am

–
Discover the new data models that go beyond raw data to tell the complex story around information collection, how it impacts a community, and what changes need to be made to achieve inclusive measurement.

May 15

Wildlife Protection | International Law Enforcement and Conservation

7:30 - 9 pm

–

A conversation about protecting the planet's wildlife and the ongoing effort to detect, deter, and prosecute those engaged in the illegal exploitation of endangered species.

June

June 19

Voices for Justice | Transforming the Culture of Gender-Based Violence

7:30 - 9 pm

–
Learning from the past and looking towards the future, this discussion highlights national and international efforts and partnerships against domestic violence.



July

July 17

Arts | Perspectives on *Time I*

7:30 - 9 pm

—
A look into the Arts Initiative's four-season study of *Time*, engaging interdisciplinary artists to examine and collaborate on the subject.

August

August 21

Creating a Sustainable Place

7:30 - 9 pm

—
Discover Grace Farms' commitment to sustainability during a conversation led by Adam Thatcher, Sustainability Advisor. Learn about the LEED

certification process and how our daily operations support continued stewardship of the environment.

September

September 18

Connection, Isolation, and the Role of Social Media

7:30 - 9 pm

—
The New York Times Social Media Editor, Sona Patel, leads a conversation about the ethics of social media and its resulting impact on the well-being of our communities.

September 22 - October 27
Life Worth Living Course

—
What sort of life is worthy of our humanity? Join us for a 6-week academic course that engages a range of philosophical and religious traditions to facilitate conversation on questions of meaning and purpose in our lives.

October

October 17

Grace Farms Foundation's 5th Annual Benefit

—
Join us for an evening to celebrate five years of advancing good through our five initiatives of nature, arts, justice, community, and faith.

November

November 12

Innovation and Impact Series | An Exploration Into What it Means to See and Be Seen

10 - 11:30 am

—
Join us for a panel illuminating the structures and policies that make individuals and communities visible and invisible—and what drives this dichotomy.

November 20

Arts | Perspectives on *Time II*

7:30 - 9 pm

—
The Arts Initiative presents an evening of meditations on the subject of *Time*, featuring contributions from our collaborating artists.



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Season of Light

November 27 - December 30

Visitors of all ages are invited to enjoy Grace Farms during the holiday season and participate in our annual Season of Light programming, which benefits and engages with local not-for-profits.

November 27 Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament

–
Register for our traditional Thanksgiving Tournament, where teens, college students, and adults participate in tournament playoffs, ending in a game between the final teams.

Giving Tree

–
Select a card from the Grace Farms Giving Tree and provide gifts for recently resettled refugees and trafficking survivors, distributed in partnership with local not-for-profits.

December

Pura Vida Mailbox Brigade

–
Participate in a New Canaan tradition by joining Grace Farms Foundation and Pura Vida to make holiday mailbox decorations. Make your own decoration in exchange for a suggested donation that benefits Pura Vida, which helps raise awareness for hungry, orphaned, abandoned, and trafficked children.

Songs of the Season

–
Experience moments of peace and tranquility with improvisational arrangements of seasonal music performed by local musicians in our Sanctuary, an indoor

amphitheater with a scenic view of the River building and acres of meadows, woods, and natural landscape.

December 11 Gifting for Good

6 - 8 pm

–
An opportunity to support those in need during the holiday season. Together, we will assemble winter care packages of essential items for families in need.



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Continuing Programs

Please visit gracefarms.org for updated information about these and other programs.

Community Dinner Every Third Friday of the Month (with exception of October and December)

Enjoy seasonal community dining experiences in our River building's Commons—a 6,900 square foot glass space with 18-foot-long communal tables that foster community and conversation.

Architectural Tours : (All year)

Saturdays 10:30 am - 12 pm
(April 2 - November 19)

Thursdays 10:30am - 12 pm

Saturdays 10:30 am - 12 pm

Explore the River, a meandering glass building designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architects SANAA, and site-specific works by artists Thomas Demand, Olafur Eliasson, Teresita Fernández, and Beatriz Milhazes. In addition, special tours focusing on a specific aspect of Grace Farms, including sustainability, the Arts, and more, are offered at various points throughout the year.

Growing Community Gardening Workshops

Immerse yourself in hands-on learning at Grace Farms' Community Garden and learn how to cultivate your own plants during our interactive Gardening Workshops led by Master Gardener Nick Mancini and Grace Farms Garden Manager, Lauren Elliott.

January 11

Pruning Apple Trees

January 18

Pruning Apple Trees

February 1

Starting Seeds Organically

February 29

Preparing for Spring

March 14

Pruning Stone Fruits

March 21

Harvesting Heirloom Seeds

April 11

Tomato Grafting

May 16

Planting Warm Weather Crops

June 6

Cucurbits

June 27

What's Bugging Your Garden?

July 11
Solanaceae Plants
July 25
Starting Seeds for Autumn
August 8
Organic Composting & Sustainability
August 29
Fall Planting
September 12
Fall Summary & Tasting

Open Arts Studio for Families
Saturdays 10:30 am - 2:30 pm
Think, play, and create at Grace Farms! Young artists, ages 3 to 10, and their adult caregivers are invited to spend time together experimenting with new materials and techniques during this facilitated program series.

January - March & May | Looking & Seeing: Discover new ways of looking—by building kaleidoscopes, pinhole cameras, and viewfinders to see the world differently.

April & June | Place
Take inspiration from the landscape and architecture at Grace Farms.

July - November | Time
Join us for hands-on workshops inspired by the Foundation's four-season study of *Time*.

Astronomy at Grace Farms
With 80 acres of open space located at one of the highest elevations in New Canaan, Grace Farms' Astronomy programs offer incredible viewing opportunities complemented by the celestial expertise of Astronomer Tim Haag and Nature Initiative Director Mark Fowler.

January 9
The Moon at Aphelion
February 27
Solar, Lunar, and Leap Years
March 24
Mercury and Venus
April 23
Lyrids Meteor Shower
June 23
Summer Solstice and the Constellations
August 12
Perseid Meteor Shower
November 4
Taurids Meteor Shower
December 15
New Moon and the Geminids

Birdwatching at Grace Farms

Our seasonal birdwatching walks are some of our most popular programs. Led by Master Birder **Frank Mantlik** and Nature Initiative Director **Mark Fowler**, this program offers an opportunity to learn about our natural world and discover the more than 85 species of birds that thrive on Grace Farms' 80-acre preserve.

February 15

Great Backyard Bird Count

May 2, 9, 16 & 23

Spring Bird Migration

September 5, 12, 19 & 26

Fall Bird Migration

October 3

Hawk Walk

The Pavilion

Tuesday - Friday 3 - 5 pm,

Saturday 11 am - 5 pm, and

Sunday 12 - 5 pm

Enjoy quiet conversation in Grace Farms' Pavilion with a 360° view of our 80-acre preserve.

The Court

Winter Schedule

(January 2 - March 31)

Visit gracefarms.org for updated information.

Basketball

Adults

Tuesday 2:30 - 4 pm

Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Sunday 3 - 6 pm

Youth

Wednesday 2 - 6 pm

Thursday 2:30 - 5 pm

Friday 2 - 5 pm

Saturday 2 - 6 pm

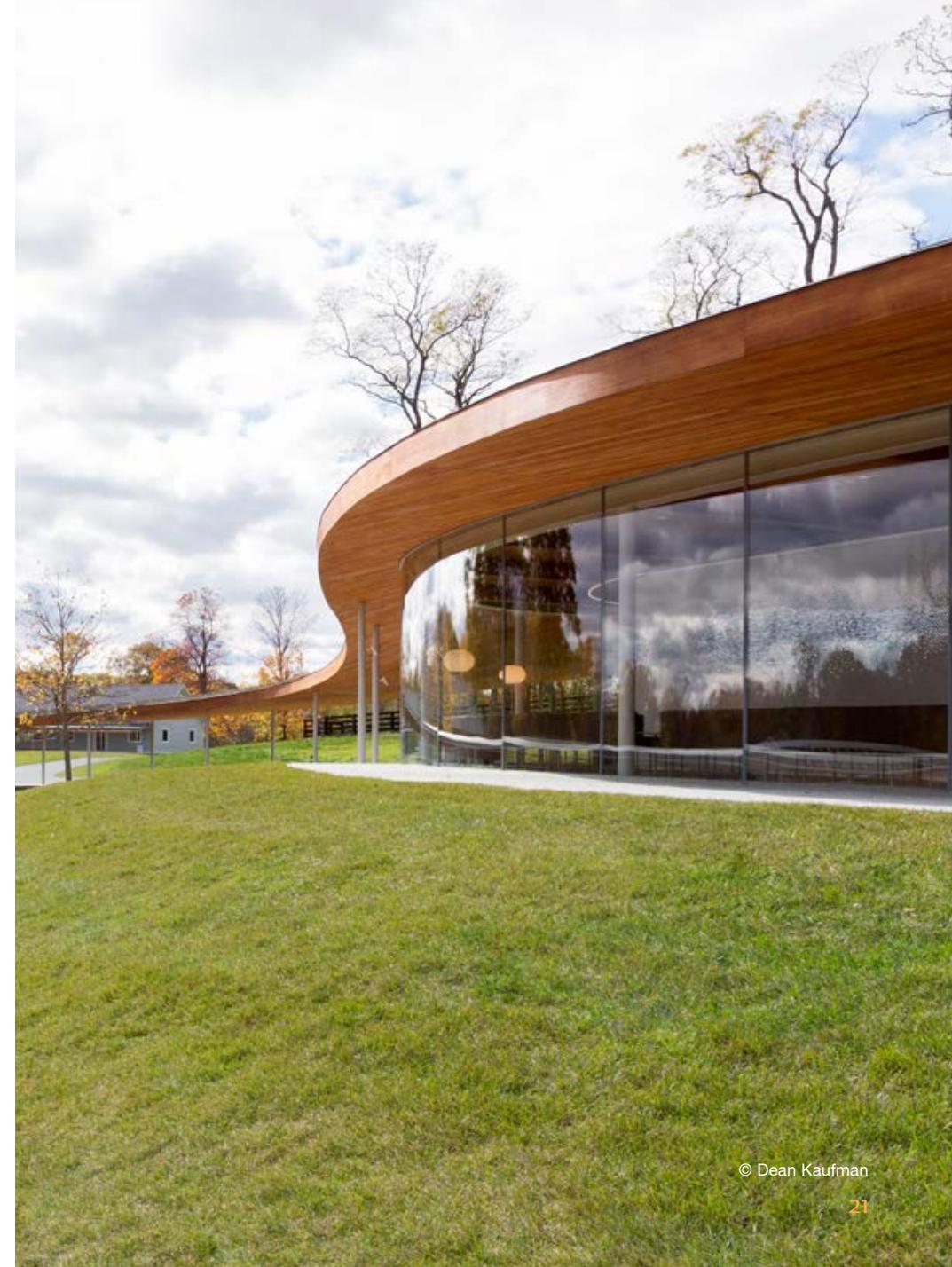
Sunday 12 - 1 pm

Pickleball

Tuesday 10 am - 12 pm

Thursday (advanced)

10 am - 12 pm



Grace Farms Foundation

In addition to our 2020 highlighted programs, Grace Farms Foundation invites individuals, not-for-profit organizations, and government entities to come together to collaborate for good throughout the year. The Foundation provides a porous platform to experience nature, encounter the arts, pursue justice, foster community, and explore faith. Through all of our work, Grace Farms Foundation supports these initiatives and encourages participation locally and globally. Ongoing work to advance these initiatives includes:

Nature

The Nature Initiative facilitates the stewardship of our natural world through restoration, exploration, and preservation. Grace Farms offers more than 35 weeks of multi-generational programming where the public can explore our native meadows, woods, wetlands, and ponds. Through interdisciplinary work with our Justice Initiative, the Nature Initiative team also works to protect endangered species and wildlife at a local and international level.

Arts

Arts at Grace Farms demonstrates our integrative vision and a dynamic interplay between people, architecture, and landscape. We develop and present new, collaborative, and site-responsive works at the intersection of the visual, literary, and performing arts by convening artists and practitioners across disciplines to explore complex subjects through an inquiry-based approach.

Justice

The Justice Initiative disrupts modern slavery, gender-based violence, and international wildlife trafficking by empowering local, national, and global justice systems, non-governmental agencies, and the public. Leveraging our law enforcement expertise and a unique interdisciplinary approach, we implement policy, training, and awareness focused on eradicating these injustices. As part of this work, Grace Farms Foundation's Architecture + Construction Working Group (GFFA+CWG) raises awareness of modern-day slavery within the building materials supply chain, Designing for Freedom. The expanding GFF A+CWG includes over 50 experts and leaders within the ecosystem of built environment to remove the imprint of modern slavery from the architecture and global construction industry.

Community

We provide a warm, welcoming environment that fosters meaningful community among people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests. Using Grace Farms as an essential platform for our work, we offer programmatic gathering spaces, a diverse range of self-directed recreational and social activities, and opportunities for individuals and not-for-profits to forge new ideas, relationships, and partnerships.

Faith

We offer opportunities for reflection and dialogue to explore the nature of a flourishing life. Additionally, we host workshops that engage a variety of faith leaders and educators, including the U.S. Army Chaplains Corps, empowering them to help make a difference in their own faith communities.

To learn more or support the Grace Farms Fund, visit gracefarms.org.

grace farms



Grace Farms is free and open to the public,
Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 6 pm, and Sunday 12 - 6 pm.

For more information, visit gracefarms.org

Connect with us: @gracefarmsct