



The Charter 100 DC Monthly Newsletter: February 2021

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President's Letter

Dear Charter 100 DC Members,

Winter has proven to be the perfect time for us to hunker down and share in some virtual fun and learning together. In January, we heard from Rebecca Boggs Roberts, author of *The Suffragist Playbook*, and curator of programming for Planet Word. This month, we're in for several treats.

Please join us on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 from 7 to 8 p.m. for an hourlong question and answer session with Marian Burros, food columnist and editor for the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*. Burros won an Emmy Award as a consumer reporter and a James Beard Newspaper Award for Feature Writing and Recipes. On Tuesday, February 16, 2021, from noon to 1:30 p.m. we will have a presentation by Christine Gebhard, chief executive officer for North Country Community Mental Health (Michigan) and speaker on social justice (and sister of Charter 100 member, Catherine Harper).

This month's newsletter includes very important information from the Charter 100 DC Membership Committee, chaired by Beverly Dean, which I urge you to read. And this month's member profile features Edith Faulkner Graves' fascinating experience in the art, architecture, and design worlds. Please take a glance at our upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you soon!

With best wishes,

Arleen Heiss

President, Charter 100 DC

A Note From the Charter 100 DC Membership Committee

Watch your inbox on March 1, 2021 for the latest instructions and forms for the nomination of new member candidates in Charter 100 DC.

There are updates on the guidelines for you to follow in nominating a candidate for membership, hopefully making it more streamlined. The new member application is in a writable PDF format, which will allow your candidate all the room they need to tell us about themselves and what they will bring to our diverse group - and the ability to return everything digitally.

We continue to modify, edit and define instructions to make our recruitment process tighter and more effective, and we continue to appreciate your participation in this process. We have had an impressive group of guests this unusual year which limited us to Zoom events, and there are currently 9 new member candidates on track for membership. Thank you to those who have invited guests and are now shepherding them through our application process.

We are here to help. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

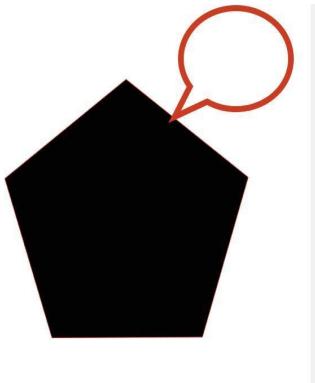
Thanks again.

Beverly Dean, Chair

Membership Committee

beverlybdean@gmail.com / 303.359.9490

Announcements



- SPECIAL EVENT: Please join us on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 from 7 to 8 p.m. for an hourlong question and answer session with Marian Burros, food columnist and editor for the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, moderated by Paula Hantman. [Click here to RSVP for this event](#)

Zoom information for this event is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2272094566?pwd=dWlRQ3dwQWdXaUtNbmWNXFLK3NDdz09>
Meeting ID: 227 209 4566
Passcode: 167992
Phone in: 1 301 715 8592 US

- Please join us on Tuesday, February 16, from noon to 1:30 p.m. for a presentation by Christine Gebhard, chief executive officer for North Country Community Mental Health (Michigan) and speaker on social justice. Presentation topic: “The Public Mental Health System: Value and Challenge.” [Click here to RSVP for this event](#)

Zoom information for this event is as follows:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2272094566?pwd=dWlRQ3dwQWdXaUtNbmWNXFLK3NDdz09>
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Charter 100 DC's 2021 Monthly Meetings

March 16: Amanda Hirsch, founder, Mighty Forces, an organization that helps women and women's organizations clarify and amplify their stories. Presentation topic: "Why All Women Should Tell Their Stories."

April 20: Robert P. Jackson, diplomat, former U.S. Ambassador to Ghana

May 18: Melissa Siegel, Cooking with Edible Flowers

We love to hear your ideas! To suggest a speaker or event for Charter 100 DC, please email our Program and Special Events committees' co-chairs:

Mini Campos minicampos509@gmail.com

Juliana Zoto jmz@jmzoto.com

Sabina Fogle sabinapfogle@gmail.com

Paula Hantman Tolle hantmans@gmail.com

As always, if you have additions or updates to the membership directory, please email Alicia at charter100dc@gmail.com

Featured Member: **Edith Faulkner Graves**

"Art, architecture, and design: these are my pillars."



When Edith Faulkner Graves was growing up, her family would sit around a large table with a cluster of assorted objects at its center, and they would draw.

The table lived in the dining room of an old barn in Virginia that Graves' parents had renovated and which the family worked on together almost every weekend. The house had no television. "We would all sit around at the big dining room table and draw still lifes...It was sort of like doing a crossword puzzle."

Art, architecture, and design were the family's lifeblood—in spirit and vocation. A fourth generation Washingtonian, Graves is part of a lineage of artists and architects that includes her father, uncle, grandfather, and great-grandfather, and now herself and her four siblings. "That became something that we were all comfortable with," she says. Her childhood home reflected this legacy. "I was really influenced by architecture, as well as the art in my home, which was very big, bold and abstract, so I wasn't afraid of things. I wasn't afraid if, in my portraits, a face didn't look like a face." Liberated from the strictures of exactitude, Graves could explore what art was supposed to *feel* like. Art classes enhanced her technical abilities.

Today, Graves is director of communications at Anthony Wilder, a custom architecture, construction, and interior design firm in the Washington, D.C area. It's a position that draws on her loves of art, architecture, and design simultaneously. Utilizing visual elements of storytelling, Graves weaves together teams of designers and writers and takes a Don Draper approach to pinpointing the ideal narrative behind an advertisement. "Words do reign everything, so you have to have good writing in order to create a good design. Otherwise, it's just decoration," she says. "So I often hire writers first." A recent magazine advertisement for Anthony Wilder showcased the firm's work with a photograph and the pointed tagline, "Come home to extraordinary."

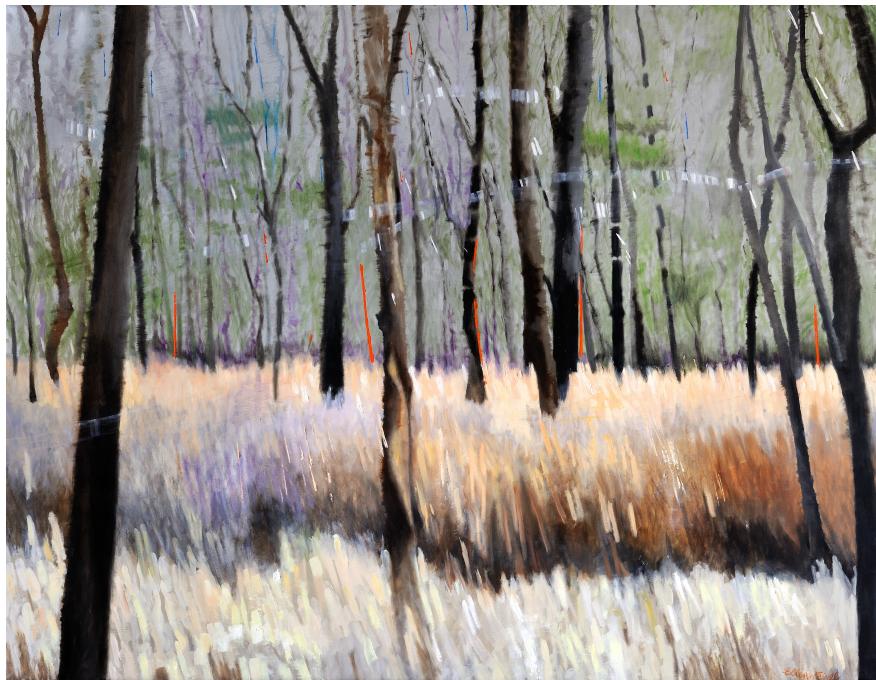
As the COVID-19 virus tore through the country, it changed people's needs and aspirations surrounding the idea of home. Graves and her team pivoted. Their more recent ads still feature the company's design in a photograph, but the message has changed: "Home is where the heart is."

Graves' tenure at Anthony Wilder began in 2017, but the years between her childhood and current times saw her living in cities around the world, including Rome, where she spent a life-changing year between high school and college, as well as her junior year abroad; Boston, where she worked for architects; New York,

where she worked first for the marketing departments of Wall Street firms and then at top graphic design firms; and Namibia. There, she had her first child while accompanying her husband on a year-long diplomatic post.

After 17 years, Graves returned to the city she knew best. Though the government hub is not usually thought of as an art-centric city, art does persist, and Graves has cultivated a network of connections between artists, designers, architects, and both private and corporate clients. One of those links is Becky Eason, for whom she worked at Eason Associates for 14 years, and who introduced her to Charter 100 DC (Eason was president of the organization in 2003 and 2014). In Charter 100 DC, Graves found a group of professional women across various fields, and a common interest in learning about new topics from experts. “I really value the lunch series at Charter 100,” she says, and is especially pleased to be able to access these events via Zoom. Graves also serves on the advisory board of the George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health (GWish), as well as the advisory team for Creative Collective in New York.

In addition to her role at Anthony Wilder, Graves represents artists through Studio E Partners, a company she and her cousin founded to provide and expand platforms for visual artists. “Essentially, I just formalize what I do anyway.” She has always enjoyed spreading the word on talented artists; today she acts as their agent. “[A]rtists don’t like to promote themselves, it’s like their worst nightmare.” With Studio E, Graves pairs artists with nontraditional gallery venues: restaurants, loft spaces, the artists’ own studios, and hotel or business lobbies. In a city like Washington, art can assert itself in unexpected places—it can emerge in all different kinds of contexts, for all different kinds of audiences—and for Edith Graves, that’s part of the thrill.



Top: "City Light," by Andrew Faulkner, Limited-Edition Archival Print, 24" x 19"
Bottom: "Trees from a Moving Train on a Silver-Grey Day," by Ellen Sinel, Oil on Canvas, 40" x 52"
You can see more of their work on studioEpartners.com

Special Addition: Recipe by Marian Burros

TIMES CLASSIC

Original Plum Torte

By Marian Burros

- **YIELD** 8 servings
- **TIME** 1 hour 15 minutes



Andrew Scrivani for The New York Times

The Times published Marian Burros's recipe for Plum Torte every September from 1983 until 1989, when the editors determined that enough was enough. The recipe was to be printed for the last time that year. "To counter anticipated protests," Ms. Burros wrote a few years later, "the recipe was printed in larger type than usual with a broken-line border around it to encourage clipping." It didn't help. The paper was flooded with angry letters. "The appearance of the recipe, like the torte itself, is bittersweet," wrote a reader in Tarrytown, N.Y. "Summer is leaving, fall is coming. That's what your annual recipe is all about. Don't be grumpy about it." We

are not! And we pledge that every year, as summer gives way to fall, we will make sure that the recipe is easily available to one and all. The original 1983 recipe called for 1 cup sugar; the 1989 version reduced that to 3/4 cup. We give both options below.

Featured in: Eating Well.

Original Plum Torte

By Marian Burros

6,658 ratings

INGREDIENTS

- **¾ to 1 cup sugar**
- **½ cup unsalted butter, softened**
- **1 cup unbleached flour, sifted**
- **1 teaspoon baking powder**
- **Pinch of salt (optional)**
- **2 eggs**
- **24 halves pitted purple plums**
- **Sugar, lemon juice and cinnamon, for topping**
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PREPARATION

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Cream the sugar and butter in a bowl. Add the flour, baking powder, salt and eggs and beat well.
3. Spoon the batter into a springform pan of 8, 9 or 10 inches. Place the plum halves skin side up on top of the batter. Sprinkle lightly with sugar and lemon juice, depending on the sweetness of the fruit. Sprinkle with about 1 teaspoon of cinnamon, depending on how much you like cinnamon.
4. Bake 1 hour, approximately. Remove and cool; refrigerate or freeze if desired. Or cool to lukewarm and serve plain or with whipped cream. (To serve a torte that was frozen, defrost and reheat it briefly at 300 degrees.)

Tip

- *To freeze, double-wrap the torte in foil, place in a plastic bag and seal.*

Useful Member Information

Charter 100 DC Website: www.charter100dc.com

Website Password for Members Only/Info: 2021charTer100

Questions, Administrative Assistance: charter100dc@gmail.com

Charter 100 DC Executive Committee:

Arleen Heiss, President

Carol Whitman, Vice President

Sally Fowler, Secretary

Jackie Hunt, Treasurer

Beverly Dean, Membership Committee Chair

Mini Campos & Juliana Zoto Efessiou, Program Committee Co-Chairs

Sabina Fogle & Paula Hantman Tolle, Special Events Committee Co-Chairs

Gail Nordheimer, Arrangements Committee Chair

Gail Raiman, Ombudsman

Barbara Ciconte, Past President

The Charter 100 of Washington, DC brings together women of
outstanding accomplishments in diverse fields.



The Charter 100 DC

www.charter100dc.org