

### 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Scenic Virginia · 4 East Main Street, Suite 2A · Richmond, Virginia 23219 (804) 643-VIEW (8439) phone · (866) 499-VIEW (8439) fax · email@scenicvirginia.org www.scenicvirginia.org

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Blue Grass Road by Michael Bedwell

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Leighton Powell, Executive Director



# By Scenic Virginia Board President Kathleen S. Kilpatrick and Board Chair Lisa Dickinson Mountcastle

A Look Back at 2021



Dear Friends of Scenic Virginia,

As 2021 draws to a close, we know it's tempting to shout, "Good riddance!" and slam the door on another incredibly difficult year. Despite the many challenges, though, Scenic Virginia not only made it through but thrived, staying on top of critical legislative developments; working with communities, organizations, and individuals throughout Virginia and beyond; and advancing our efforts to educate, advocate, and support Virginia's scenic beauty.

Our sustained focus was possible because supporters told us every day that scenic beauty was aiding mind, body, and spirit and thanked us for what we do. That grateful validation of our work fueled our passion and resolve, and we're pleased to share a few special highlights of that work:

#### The View That Named Richmond



Yes, it took YEARS of dogged persistence and collaboration with many partners, but our efforts to promote and preserve "The View" paid off in August when The Conservation Fund closed on the riverfront property that sits in the viewshed. Our friends at the Capital Region Land Conservancy will eventually place the parcel under a conservation easement, the land will be incorporated into Richmond's extraordinary James River Park System, and The View will be preserved!

#### Virginia Viewshed Project.



At the international Visual Resource Stewardship Conference in October, Executive Director Leighton Powell presented project updates and again received a very positive response from visual resource professionals, including one who called our work to identify beloved scenic resources at the local level "the missing piece in visual resource management."

Stay tuned for an exciting announcement in early 2022.

#### Garden Club of Virginia Honors Executive Director Leighton Powell.



 $[L-R] \ Leighton \ Powell \ receives \ the \ Dugdale \ Award \ from \ GCV \ Awards \ Committee \ Chair \ Jane \ Edwards.$ 

On November 1, members of The Garden Club of Virginia presented Leighton with The Elizabeth Cabell Dugdale Award for Meritorious Achievement in Conservation.

Named for the originator of the GCV Conservation Forum, the Award recognizes outstanding service in the conservation and wise development of the natural resources of the Commonwealth and is given to an organization, industry, or individual who is not a member of the GCV. We are so proud of Leighton and her work for Virginia. **Brava!** 

#### 2021 Virginia Vistas Photo Contest.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch revealed our 2021 Winners in its Sunday Culture section on December 12. See the feature below and on our website at www.scenicvirginia.org.



We are grateful that you love the scenic beauty of our Commonwealth as much as we do, and we look forward to continuing our work with you in 2022. Until then, please accept our wishes for a Happy New Year.

Warmly and with much gratitude,

Kathleen S. Kilpatrick Board President Lisa Dickinson Mountcastle Board Chair

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Live Colorfully by Florence Womacks

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#### **Grants**

The Beirne Carter Foundation
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Scenic Virginia is grateful to all of our wonderful donors for their generous support. If you have any questions, concerns, or edits, please let us know!

#### 2021 Virginia Vistas Photo Winners

The ten photos featured on prior pages and below are the Winners of our 2021 Virginia Vistas Photo Contest. Notecard sets of the Winners are available for purchase by contacting Scenic Virginia using the information below.

A set of ten cards (featuring one of each Winner) is \$20.00 + \$5.00 shipping & handling.



In Winter's Grasp by Esther Streusand



Heading South by Linda Schmiel



Foggy Daybreak by Robert Golub



Wild, Beautiful, and Free by Florence Womacks

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