

All Aboard the Parade Train

The BAAFC and W&OD clubs set up a special joint train layout in support of the VSA Loudoun's performance of *All Aboard the Parade Train* at the Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services' Franklin Park Arts Center in Purcellville, Virginia. On November 18-20, this original musical celebrating the 100th anniversary of the historic Purcellville tradition of the Parade train, set to music the story of the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad special, operated westbound as the Loudoun Limited, between Ashburn and Purcellville. Picking up passengers to participate in this annual Thanksgiving parade of school children, the students dressed up as Indians, Pilgrims, turkeys and wearing their Sunday best. Making station stops at Ashburn, Leesburg, Clark's Gap, Paeonian Springs, Hamilton and Purcellville, the parade would take place on Purcellville's Main Street.

The layout done by Joe Glenn and Greg Klein used the NASG 5-foot by 9-foot layout, expanded with the addition of two 2-foot by 4-foot modules to create a Loudoun rural theme with a dairy farm, plowed field and cross country horse racing. The town scene featured Purcellville station, a post office, general store, two churches, lumber yard, saw mill, gas station, cafe, homes, and a house under construction. All vehicles and tractors were from the 1910 to 1929 era with over 150 scale figures and many, many animals telling the story of parade day and life in Purcellville town.



Originally “VSA” stood for Very Special Arts. Today, VSA arts of Loudoun, founded in 1989 as a 501(c)(3), represents “Vision of an inclusive community, Strength in shared resources, Artistic expression that unites us all.”



