



***A World Where Aging is Honored***  
CVCOA Helpline 1-800-642-5119

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“Age out Loud”: Comedic Stories and Music at the Barre Opera House on Saturday May 4  
Will Benefit Central Vermont Council on Aging**

**Barre, VT** (April 9, 2019) Central Vermont Council on Aging is pleased to announce its third annual fundraiser, “Age Out Loud”, an evening of comedic storytelling on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the Barre Opera House. “Age Out Loud” features NPR award-winning comedic storytellers and Moth Slam producers, Susanne Schmidt and Kevin Gallagher with live blues/rock music by The Brevity Thing, with special guest storyteller, Katherine Paterson. “Age Out Loud” also includes a silent auction and the opening of Art of Creative Aging, an exhibit of works by older Central Vermont artists on exhibit in the lobby of the Barre Opera House during the month of May. Doors open at 6pm for the silent auction. This successful fundraiser brings the community together during national Older Americans Month to celebrate and honor Central Vermont Council on Aging’s mission to support aging with dignity and choice. Enjoy a fun evening of warm, funny, engaging stories while supporting the good work of your Central Vermont Council on Aging!

Susanne Schmidt and Kevin Gallagher are performers, coaches, and the founders of Say It Forward Productions with the mission to “change the world using the power of stories for good.” Susanne Schmidt is a standup comedienne, master storyteller and producer for The Moth. Her work has been featured on CBS News, The Moth and National Public Radio. Susanne has appeared in The Boston Women in Comedy Festival, The Toronto SheDot Festival and named the “Best of the Valley Voices” by The Academy of Music Theater and New England Public Radio. Schmidt is a teaching artist at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts and a graduate professor of Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Kevin Gallagher is a Moth GrandSLAM winner, seasoned storyteller, coach and performer who is also a clinical mental health counselor.

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Katherine Paterson is the author of more than 30 books, including 16 novels for children and young people. She has twice won the Newbery Medal, for *Bridge to Terabithia* in 1978 and *Jacob Have I Loved* in 1981. *The Master Puppeteer* won the National Book Award in 1977 and *The Great Gilly Hopkins* won the National Book Award in 1979 and was also a Newbery Honor Book. For the body of her work she received the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1998, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award in 2006, and in 2000 was named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress. Katherine currently resides in Montpelier, Vermont.

Tickets may be purchased at the box office at the Barre Opera House and online at [www.barreoperahouse/tickets](http://www.barreoperahouse/tickets) or at the door. Over 80 items are listed on the Age Out Loud online auction at [www.biddingowl.com/CVCOA](http://www.biddingowl.com/CVCOA) including a Concept2 rowing machine with an opening bid price of only \$550!

Central Vermont Council on Aging has many generous sponsors for Age Out Loud including The Lauzon Family, The Alchemist Stowe, Westview Meadows, The Gary Residence, Green Mountain Support Services, Central Vermont Medical Center, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont, Fothergill Segale and Valley, Gardner Insurance, Milne Travel-American Express, National Life Group, rbTechnologies, Lawson's Finest Liquids, The Village at White River Junction, AARP, Berrien Insurance, TD Bank, NE Delta Dental, North Country Federal Credit Union, DuBois & King, Union Bank, Bayada Home Health Care, and Community National Bank.

*Central Vermont Council on Aging's mission is to support Central Vermonters to age with dignity and choice. We serve 54 towns in Central Vermont. For assistance, visit the website at [www.cvcoa.org](http://www.cvcoa.org) or call the Help Line at 1-800-642-5119. CVCOA is located at 59 North Main Street, Suite 200 in Barre with regional offices located in Morrisville, Randolph, South Royalton, and Rochester.*