

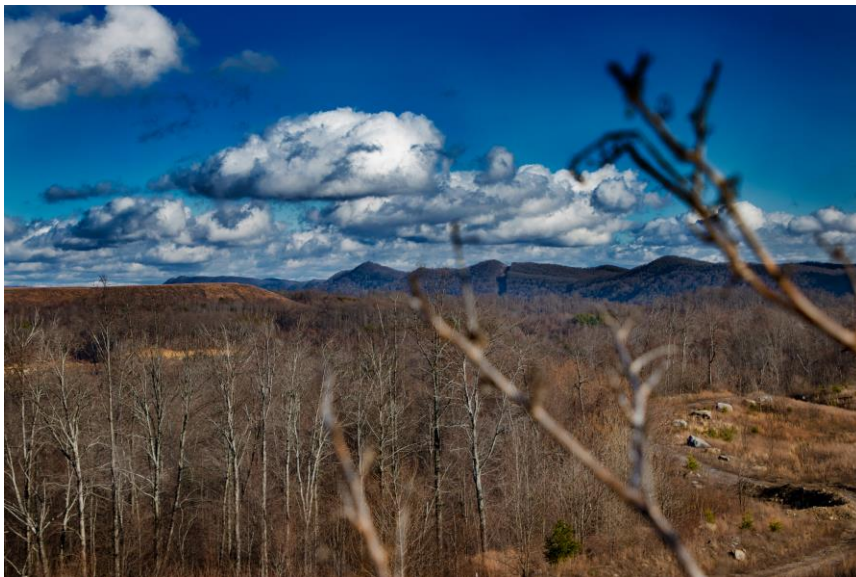


## OVERVIEW

Appalachia has yielded up its natural resources—driving prosperity for many outside the region, with its coal generating electricity and fueling the manufacture of steel which built many of our nation’s cities. As the coal industry goes through dramatic changes, Eastern Kentucky residents face the many challenges of a displaced economy.

Appalachia is also a place of immense history, culture, and innovative and smart people who are working together to move the region forward.

**SomeWhere Appalachia is a catalyst for change in the region, being developed in partnership with the people of the community.** The initiative will transform a former coal mine site with an architecturally significant pavilion that features regional contemporary art alongside Berlinde De Bruyckere’s monumental and visceral sculpture, *Kreupelhout-Cripplewood*, 2012-2013.



## LOCATION

Former mine sites in **Eastern Kentucky**

## CORE INITIATIVES

- Arts incubation
- Economic development
- Education
- Land conservation

*Appalachian Kentucky. Photo: Chad Haberle*

## GOALS

- Help support the transition from a mono-economy to a diverse and sustainable economy
- Showcase and celebrate the culture and resilience of the Appalachian people
- Present notable works of art from the region and from across the globe, and develop artist residencies
- Strengthen communities by building and leveraging networks across Appalachia, including an advisory group of educators and community members from Eastern Kentucky
- Develop a strong public/private partnership with local organizations and government
- Generate new economic opportunities and jobs through the arts
- Advance regional tourism in Eastern Kentucky and the communities of Barbourville, Berea, Corbin, Cumberland, Harlan, Hyden, Livingston, London, Pineville, Middlesboro, and Whitesburg
- Attract a national and international audience and increase recognition and appreciation of the region’s cultural traditions and unique natural environment
- Offer educational programs for children and adults, centering on creativity as a 21<sup>st</sup> century survival skill
- Preserve and protect the natural environment by rejuvenating a former coal mine site and enacting site-specific land preservation activities



Berlinde De Bruyckere, *Kreupelhout-Cripplewood*, 2012-2013, 2013. Wax, epoxy, iron, leather, cotton, blankets, linen. 91" x 161" x 705." Collection of Brook and Pam Smith.  
Photo: Mirjam Devriendt

### ***Kreupelhout-Cripplewood*, 2012-2013**

The centerpiece of the SomeWhere Appalachia will be Berlinde De Bruyckere's monumental and visceral sculpture, *Kreupelhout-Cripplewood*, 2012-2013.

First presented at the **Venice Art Biennale** in 2013, the haunting work depicts a massive fallen tree of iron in a flesh-like encaustic wax veined with red, as if animated by blood. It evokes a giant supine body, wrapped in places with pieces of fabric as though bandaged to protect injuries.

The sculpture will also be on view at **Park Avenue Armory** in New York as the centerpiece of the production of *Maria Vespers*, March 21-29, 2020.

At SomeWhere Appalachia, the work will be installed in juxtaposition with both the surrounding woodlands and the remaining mining infrastructure, embodying the hope for recovery—the ability of the natural world to rebound from damage, communities to recover their vitality, and individuals to take control of their lives. Its presentation will also be contextualized with regional art and culture.

*"This work is about healing. I want people to learn how to deal with wounds in their lives. Very often people are ashamed... They want to cover them. If you can live with them and even show them, it's easier."*

—Berlinde De Bruyckere

### **APPALACHIAN KENTUCKY**

**54** counties, **38** of which are considered economically distressed

**1.2 million** residents

2,000 acres of old growth forest in **Blanton Forest**

Kentucky has the **greatest length of waterways** and streams in the continental US

Appalachian Impact Fund: [appalachianimpactfund.org](http://appalachianimpactfund.org)

Appalachian Arts Alliance: [appalachianartsalliance.org](http://appalachianartsalliance.org)

Appalachian Food Summit: [appalachianfood.com](http://appalachianfood.com)

Appalshop: [appalshop.org](http://appalshop.org)

Studio Appalachia: <https://design.uky.edu/studio-appalachia/>

Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky: [appalachianky.org](http://appalachianky.org)

The Holler: <https://www.theholler.org/>

Higher Ground in Harlan: [highergroundinharlan.com](http://highergroundinharlan.com)

Kentucky Tourism: [kentuckytourism.com](http://kentuckytourism.com)

**For more information, visit [SomeWhereAppalachia.org](http://SomeWhereAppalachia.org)**