GRASS VALLEY-NEVADA CITY
CULTURAL DISTRICT
CULTURE CONNECTION

Welcome to Culture Connection

Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District's newsletter, featuring the events, stories, and people of our community.

A Thousand Cranes—Celebrating 10 years of Community Arts Theatre of the Sierra and our Asian American Heritage

Opening Reception
Friday, January 19
5:00 - 7:00pm
The Grass Valley Community Arts Center
800 Mason Way, Grass Valley

Join us for the Opening Reception of A Thousand Cranes—Celebrating 10 years of Community Arts Theatre of the Sierra and our Asian American Heritage. This special reception is the official launch of Art Walk Grass Valley, a new collaborative initiative between the Grass Valley Cultural District and the Community Arts Center.

Art Walk Grass Valley is a unique collaborative initiative between the Grass Valley Cultural District and the Community Arts Center, designed to connect visitors to the vibrant creative spaces in our downtown.

"A Thousand Cranes" is a collaborative Community Theatre of the Sierra (CATS) show that celebrates the community that has supported the theatre for 10 years and the Asian American Heritage that has been a part of the theatre's history. The Grass Valley Cultural District and the Community of Nevada City Heritage by Jewel Lum-Kim. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States and Canada, including the Smithsonian Institution, the Oakland Museum, and the Japan Society in New York.

The artwork includes silence series, origami, photo, and textile from Kim's family collection, and from the Nevada City Chinese Heritage Project and Nevada County Museum, CATS has partnered with the Nevada County Chinese Commission to provide historical context and incorporate video interpretation from the Nevada County Historical Society. Kim will be in attendance at the opening.

Acting Up!

Monday, beginning January 21
6:00 - 8:00pm

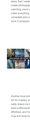
Bright Futures for Youth in Nevada County (BFY) is offering

Nevada County Arts Council staff will be teaching a 10-week acting class for youth ages 14-18 at the Nevada County Arts Council Center in Nevada City. This is an opportunity for youth ages to explore their creativity, build confidence, and expand their skills in acting, performance, and stage craft.

Participants will learn foundational techniques in acting, including character development, vocal projection, and storytelling. The subjects that will be explored are Stanislavski's Method, Meisner, and Lecoq's Physical Theatre as well as exercises in improvisation, ensemble building, and performance techniques through building empathy, overcoming stage fright, and collaborative creation.

If you have a young person in mind that would be interested in this class, please reach out to Kate Kaplan at Kate@bfyfamilies.org or Jessica Wolf at jessica@nevadacoe.com.

Artist Spotlight – Ellen Davis



Ellen Davis's fascination for geometric patterns, and commitment to exploration. "Some images will "light" me and the work flows easily, others require more thought and effort," she explains. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the United States and Canada, and she has taught classes and workshops in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Her work has been featured in Fiber Arts Magazine, Fiber Studio Magazine, and Fiber Art Now. Davis's work has been selected for juried exhibitions in the United States, Canada, and Ireland. Her work has been in the collections of the Oakland Museum, the Nevada County Museum, and the Nevada County Arts Council. Davis's work has been selected for juried exhibitions in the United States, Canada, and Ireland. Her work has been in the collections of the Oakland Museum, the Nevada County Museum, and the Nevada County Arts Council.

Davis has been an active member of the Nevada County Arts Council for many years, serving on the board and as a juried exhibition curator. She has also been a member of the Nevada County Fiber Arts Guild, the Sierra Fiber Arts Guild, and the Fiber Arts Guild of Ireland. She has served on the boards of the Nevada County Arts Council and the Fiber Arts Guild of Ireland, and has been a member of the Nevada County Fiber Arts Guild, the Sierra Fiber Arts Guild, and the Fiber Arts Guild of Ireland.

Artist Statement: "I am a fiber artist who is obsessed with the interplay of pattern and texture. I am drawn to the tactile nature of fiber, and I enjoy the challenge of creating a cohesive piece from many disparate elements. I am also drawn to the ancient nature of fiber, and I feel a connection to the past when I work with it. I am a fiber artist who is obsessed with the interplay of pattern and texture. I am drawn to the tactile nature of fiber, and I enjoy the challenge of creating a cohesive piece from many disparate elements. I am also drawn to the ancient nature of fiber, and I feel a connection to the past when I work with it."

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Grounded Reviews Exhibition

Exhibition Dates: January 7 - February 18
The Grassroots Gallery at The Center for the Arts
341 Mill, Street, Grass Valley

A Night of Talking Heads with Mainstreet Collective

Saturday, January 27
8:00 pm - 11:00 pm

The Miners Foundry
Nevada City
Nevada City

This will be a lively evening of Talking Heads with Mainstreet Collective. Talking Heads is a series of monologues, dialogues, and musical pieces. This evening will include "Tangled in Light" and "Tangled in Tangles" (v.2) in an intimate setting at the Miners Foundry.

Our Mainstreet Collective
Mainstreet Collective is a group of talented and passionate performers who have been performing together for over 10 years. Our shows are always unique, original, and unpretentious and performances that blow the collective mind.

Tickets $15 - $20

The Foundry Singer

Wednesday, January 31
Doors at 5:00pm
Show at 6:00pm

The Miners Foundry
Nevada City
Nevada City

Tickets $15 - $20

Community Players Trust

Community Players Trust is celebrating its 40th year and is seeking applications and nominations for new members.

Community Players Trust grant applications are open!

Community Players Trust is seeking applications and nominations for new members. Applications are due by noon on Friday, January 23, 2026. Grants will be awarded in March 2026.

The combined amount of Community Players Trust grants is $5,000. Grants are for projects that support the mission of Community Players Trust, which is to support the arts and culture in Nevada County, and to provide opportunities for the community to participate in and enjoy arts and cultural activities. The last date to apply is December 19th. Grant Criteria: Grants are for projects that support the mission of Community Players Trust, which is to support the arts and culture in Nevada County, and to provide opportunities for the community to participate in and enjoy arts and cultural activities.

Grants are awarded to applicants who have demonstrated a need for funding and the ability to carry out the project, and who have a track record of fiscal responsibility. Grants are awarded to applicants who have demonstrated a need for funding and the ability to carry out the project, and who have a track record of fiscal responsibility