

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



STAY SAFE. STAY STRONG. STAY CREATIVE.



Virtual Creatives Happy Hour

Join the Nevada County Arts Council and Nevada City Film Festival at 5:30pm on Thursday, July 9th, for the VIRTUAL version of their monthly Local Creatives Happy Hour. This event is for creatives, artists, filmmakers, photographers, writers, designers, entrepreneurs, small business owners and those who are working in the local creative economy.

This month will feature students who are the creators and publishers of <u>Reflections, a</u> <u>Literary Magazine</u>. This month's event will be from 5:30pm-6:30pm and will be hosted via Zoom. You can either call in or log in using the link below.

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86063126505? pwd=MEdNUkJIMEUwaGdOc1BUWW1IYTVaUT09

Meeting ID: 860 6312 6505 Password: 878127 Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833 US



SYRCL's Wild & Scenic Film Festival and Briarpatch Food Co-op Present "Foodie Films Night"

On Thursday, July 9th, at 7pm SYRCL's Wild & Scenic Film Festival will present a selection of the Festival's past Official Selections in a Live Virtual Event. These food-themed films will be broadcast live online in partnership with <u>BriarPatch Food Coop</u>. This is a free event; donations are welcome. Click the button below to select your tickets; all proceeds benefit <u>SYRCL</u>.

A panel discussion about the organic food industry will feature Michael Funk of <u>UNFI</u>, Izzy Martin of the <u>Sierra Fund</u>, and Amigo Bob of <u>The Felix Gillet Institute</u>. Molly Nakahara and Rachel Berry will participate in a Q&A session after the film *Seeding Our Future*.

The films being shown are:

Seeding Our Future (10 min) - Sierra Harvest educates, inspires and connects families to fresh, local seasonal foods through farm to school education; training the next generation of farmers and supporting low-income families in growing food at home. Their programs reach 96% of the K-8 students in Western Nevada County. Prepare to get inspired by this regional model of food systems change.

Soil Carbon Cowboys (12 min) - Many people talk about the cattle business as a big environmental problem. Cattle, when properly grazed, offer solutions to soil health, animal health, human health, water supply and food nutrition.

Evolution of Organic (87 min) - Told by those who built the movement, *Evolution of Organic* is the story of organic agriculture. A motley crew of back-to-the-landers, spiritual seekers and farmers' sons and daughters reject chemical farming and set out to explore organic alternatives. It's a heartfelt journey of change – from a small band of rebels to a cultural transformation in the way we grow and eat food.

SELECT TICKETS



GROUP INSTRUMENT COACHING GROUP VOICE COACHING MUSIC THEORY & HISTORY

Music in the Mountains Virtual SummerFest Music Academy

Beginning on July 13th, Music in the Mountains' Virtual SummerFest Music Academy presents interactive music education for all ages, abilities & interests! A complete schedule of workshops is <u>here</u>.

Do you play an instrument? Sign-up for four weeks of twice-weekly group instrument music coaching... culminating with your participation in virtual recordings.

Do you want to sing better? A professional opera singer and voice coach will help you get to the next level in group voice coaching.

Do you want to improve your rhythm, counting skills, practice strategies or just learn music history? Sign-up for one or all of the music theory & history workshops.

Fees are \$10 per 1-hour session or \$50 for unlimited sessions. Scholarships available upon request; no one will be turned away due to financial need.





What a Relief! - Online Arts Festival to Benefit the Nevada County Artist Relief Fund

To support professional artists in all disciplines whose livelihoods have been devastated by the impacts of COVID-19, <u>Nevada County Arts Council</u> and a coalition of local arts organizations have launched the <u>Nevada County Artist Relief Fund.</u> To help jumpstart donations and raise awareness for the fund, Nevada County Arts Council is presenting an online festival, "What a Relief!", on Saturday, July 18th, from noon to 8:00pm. This event will feature over 40 performances by musicians, artists, and actors on the Nevada County Arts Council <u>YouTube channel</u> and <u>Facebook page</u>.

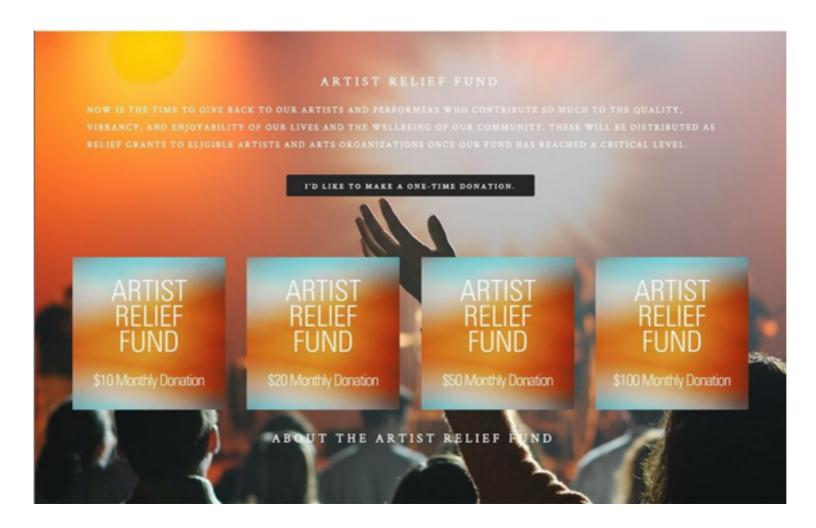
"Before COVID-19 we could all go downtown any night of the week to experience an array of live music, theatrical and dance performances and film. The pandemic has created a gaping hole in all of lives. This event is a wonderful reminder of how much the arts and local artists mean to us," says Eliza Tudor, Executive Director of the Nevada County Arts Council.

A stunning lineup of artists and arts advocates have been assembled for the event including classical guitarist <u>Gyan Riley</u>, filmmaker and gallerist <u>Cheryl Haines</u>, experimental film pioneer <u>Daniel Reeves</u>, Pulitzer-prize winning poet <u>Forrest Gander</u>, Grammy Award-winning family hip hop musician <u>Secret Agent 23 Skidoo</u>, best-selling <u>author and musician Sands Hall</u>, award-winning <u>performance artist Izzi Tooinsky</u>, renowned visual <u>artist LeeAnn Brook</u>, <u>Community Asian Theater of the Sierra (CATS)</u>, <u>poet</u> <u>Maxima Kahn</u>, an array of actors from <u>Sierra Stages</u>, and many more! The list continues to grow each day.

The goal is to raise \$40,000 during the online festival. These funds will then be made available for local artists to apply for micro-grants.

Nevada County Arts Council is grateful to the expanding cohort of local arts organizations who are part of the coalition to raise funds for artists. So, far, these include The <u>Miners</u> <u>Foundry Cultural Center</u> in Nevada City, <u>The Center for the Arts</u> in Grass Valley, <u>Music in</u> <u>the Mountains</u>, <u>InConcert Sierra</u>, <u>CATS</u>, <u>Sierra Stages</u>, and <u>Trails and Vistas</u> and <u>InnerRhythms Dance</u> from Truckee.

"It speaks volumes that our longest standing arts organizations – themselves battling to survive and thrive – are so supportive of our artists," says Jon Blinder, Board President at Nevada County Arts Council. "It points to the healthy respect of one part of our sector for another, and the knowledge we all share that the arts have a critical role to play in driving our economy beyond COVID-19. What's good for the arts is good for us all!"



Artist Relief Fund

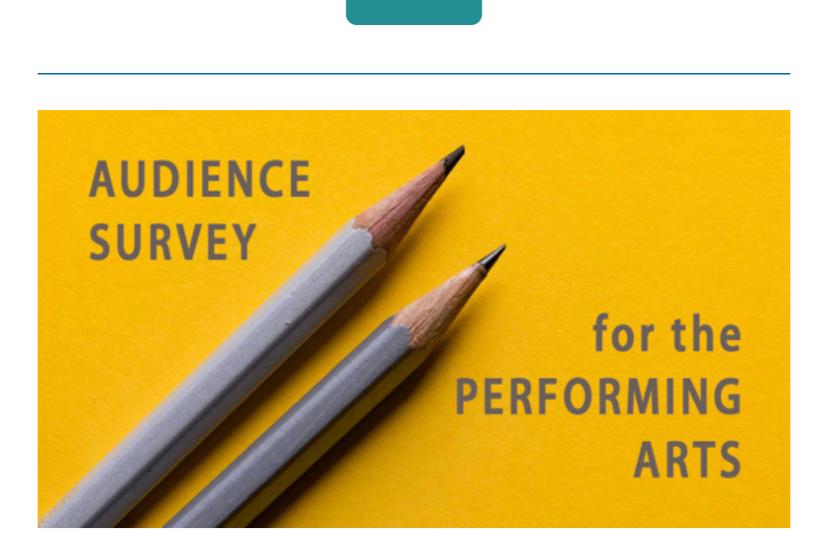
Arts events, concerts, and productions have been cancelled in venues across the county due to the effects of COVID-19 - and professional artists whose livelihoods are dependent on these events are facing insurmountable losses.

In response, <u>Nevada County Arts Council</u> has formed a coalition of local arts organizations to create an emergency initiative to offer financial and informational resources to artists within Nevada County.

Now is the time to give back to our artists who contribute so much to the quality of our lives and the wellbeing of our community. Funds will be distributed as micro relief grants to eligible artists once our fund has reached a critical level.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY! Your tax-deductible donation goes directly toward the support of professional artists in all disciplines whose livelihoods have been affected by the public health crisis.

DONATE



Nevada County Arts Council's Audience Survey for the Performing Arts

Please take our five-minute survey.

As Nevada County slowly re-opens amidst a global public health crisis, performing and presenting organizations want to hear from you, their audiences. Please take <u>Nevada</u> <u>County Arts Council's</u> short survey to help inform our arts leaders as they make important decisions about your safety and comfort, as well as your personal preferences.

TAKE THE SURVEY



"What I Make of My Space" Online Exhibition

<u>"What I Make Of My Space"</u> is an online exhibition prompted by global guidance to "shelter in place" at the beginning of the COVID-19 public health crisis.

The "Call to All" invited visual and written reflections on spaces that hold meaning for individuals around the world. Artists were asked whether these spaces had been easy to inhabit, or simply places of confinement, and they were asked to provide their unique personal perspectives during this challenging moment in our history. Several submissions responding to themes of racial injustice were submitted and these are also included in the exhibition.

The exhibition is directed by Nevada County Arts Council Artist in Residence, <u>Ruth Chase</u>. This is Ruth's third curated project for Nevada County Arts, and - common to each of her projects - carries a special aim of having artists and "non-artists" exhibiting side by side. Ruth believes that well-curated work can take the elitism out of an exhibition and bring quality work - and people - together.

We invite you to explore the work of these artists from around the world:

Francesco Boi Aqueila M. Lewis-Ross Luba Kuzmina Juliette Morris Williams Georgina Marie Sara Visvader Monique Peterson Nikiya Kiara Basilio Crisostomo Donn K. Harris Jennifer Rugge Toma Jelenc David Mack Gary Duehr Joanna Penney Ana Catalina Gubandru H. Merve Guc Guilherme Bergamini Fotografia Zecora S. Kim Owens

Photo: "Social Isolation" by Guilherme Bergamini

VISIT THE ONLINE EXHIBIT



RESOURCES FOR THE CREATIVE COMMUNITY

COVID-19 Resources for the Creative Community

Nevada County Arts Council has put together <u>a directory of the most current news and</u> <u>resources for the creative community</u> and the community at large. This directory, which is updated regularly, includes information about funding, staying connected and virtual entertainment opportunities, including:

- Funding for organizations
- Funding for <u>individual artists</u>
- Virtual <u>entertainment</u> from around the globe in all disciplines including dance, film,
- kids activities, literary arts, music, podcasts, theatre, and the visual arts
- Staying connected via the best of social media
- Arts <u>education</u>
- Preparedness in the arts and for creative businesses
- State and local <u>government updates</u>
- Arts <u>advocacy</u>
- <u>Artist calls</u> for Nevada County Artists in all disciplines
 Calendar of both <u>virtual and place-bound events</u>

COVID-19 RESOURCES DIRECTORY



#GVNCCulturalDistrict on Instagram

Grass Valley-Nevada City is one of 14 districts selected by The California Arts Council to serve as California's inaugural state-designated Cultural Districts. Each one of us is an ambassador of our community, so **please help us celebrate our heritage and the people, places, traditions and events that contribute to the quality of life here by sharing your photos on Instagram with #GVNCCulturalDistrict.**

Follow these local artists and businesses who are already sharing their images and video: (Click on the name to view their Instagram page; click on the image to view that specific photo on their page.)



<u>#gvfarmersmarket</u>



#rickstevensartist