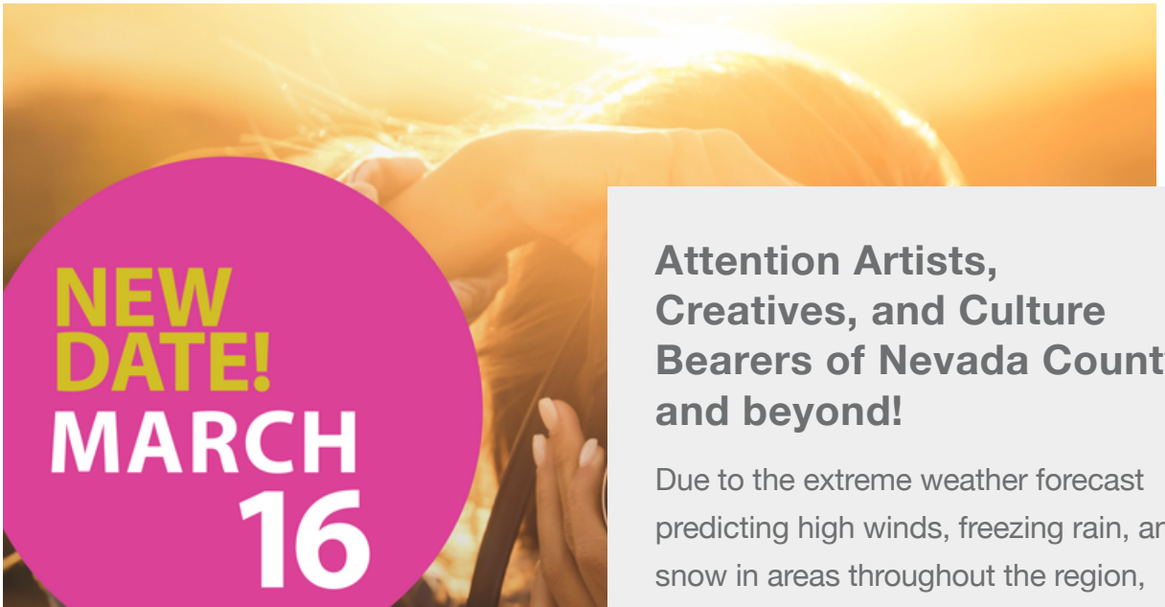
GRASS VALLEY-NEVADA CITY
CULTURAL DISTRICT
CULTURE CONNECTION

Welcome to Culture Connection

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

March is Women's History Month, a time to honor and celebrate the contributions and achievements of women throughout history and in our lives. Women's History Month is important as it recognizes the often-overlooked accomplishments of women in various fields and highlights the ongoing struggle for gender equality. It serves as a reminder of the progress made and the work still to be done to achieve full gender parity for all.

To learn more about Women's History Month and the remarkable women who have shaped history, check out resources like the National Women's History Museum and the Library of Congress Women's History Month page.



Attention Artists, Creatives, and Culture Bearers of Nevada County and beyond!

Due to the extreme weather forecast predicting high winds, freezing rain, and snow in areas throughout the region,

Nevada County Arts Council has decided to reschedule *The Business of Art* to Saturday, March 16th. The safety of our presenters and participants is our primary concern.

Stay safe Nevada County!

Artist Spotlight - Shelley Carlisle

We sat down with local mixed media artist, Shelley Carlisle, whose work was recently featured as part of the Wild & Scenic Film Festival. She had three photographs juried into the exhibition and is now getting ready for another show, *Awakening: The Sacred Feminine* at the Nevada City Winery tasting room.

Carlisle creates a vast array of work, collages consisting of her own printed photgraphs and found images, along with exploring a variety of other mediums. You can see one of her pieces in the upcoming *Celebration of Water* exhibition at the Granucci Gallery.

Shelley Carlisle has always been a creative person, but only recently followed the call of her creative expression. “I have always been an artist, a musician and singer. But I never allowed myself to fully embrace or fully commit to either of these creative careers until a few years ago when I returned to school.” Carlisle graduated with an

MFA in Studio Art from Mills College in 2022.

We always ask our Artist Spotlight where they draw inspiration from. Carlisle's response comes as no surprise and informs her past and current exhibitions. "My inspiration comes from Mother Nature and the Sacred Feminine, reclaiming my own personal power and following my dreams, my reason for being incarnated on the planet - to create and share my art and music and teach others to do the same." Carlisle has a zest for adventure and photographing the awesome and mystical spaces. While out in nature she hunts for the most unique scenes to capture the beauty and grandeur of Mother Nature and the Sacred Feminine. Through sharing these photographic images, she hopes to inspire the viewer. Inviting them to step inside a magical place where they have been transported to spiritually and viscerally experience the sublime majesty of the natural world.

We asked Carlisle what are some things she's most proud of and along with her engaging body of work, her answer also inspires. "I have many things I'm very proud of, but the most recent is rekindling my connection to myself and my value as a woman and human being. Finally giving myself permission to follow my creative path, all while my marriage was falling apart from about 2018 -2022. It was in that chaotic soup of pain and realization that I decided to return to school to get my MFA, which exploded my art practice to photography, collage, videography and other art forms. The graduate program kept me focused and connected to myself, during the divorce process of 2 years, and I forged a path ahead to start a completely new life at 60 years old. I'm very proud of myself for honoring myself to finally become who I was meant to be. I hope that my story is inspiring to others who might think it's "too late" or they are "too old" - it is never too late and one is never too old - to live your most desired life and follow your dreams."

One thing we love about Nevada County is the remarkable range of talent that resides in the foothills of the Sierra. Carlisle commented on this, “I'm am continually amazed at the incredible variety of talented artists and musicians, the mutual support of each other and the myriad of opportunities available to artists in this community. I'm especially honored to be in the company of so many talented photographers in the Nevada County Camera Club. This is one of the reasons I moved to this area, to build my community.”

Another question we love to ask our Artist Spotlight is about other aritsts in the community that they admire. “There are so many artists I admire in this community, it's hard to choose! However one that immediately comes to mind is Ellen Davis - I am inspired by her use of alternative photography processes and creative approaches to her photographic images.” Ellen Davis was one of our Artist Spotlights in January for her collaborate show *Grounded Reveries* with Jonathan Hinojosa at the Granucci Gallery.

We asked Shelley Carlisle what’s coming up for her. “I have a solo show with Nevada City Winery, opening on March 8th. I'll also have one photo in the *Celebration of Water* exhibition at the Granucci Gallery, opening the same day as my solo show, and I have another solo show at Edward Jones opening May 3rd. During the Summer and through the Fall I will be exhibiting in Art Fairs and Festivals throughout California and neighboring states.” With so much coming up for her we are so glad she had a moment to give us a peak into her creative process.

Awakening:
The Sacred Feminine

Opening Reception

Friday, March 8th, 5:00-7:00pm

Nevada City Winery
321 Spring Street, Nevada City

Awakening: The Sacred Feminine combines a dynamic mixture of Shelley Carlisle's nature photography and imaginative abstract collage, honoring worldwide Goddess mythologies, symbolism, and mystical intrigue.

Specifically chosen to open on International Women's Day, March 8, the show channels Carlisle's deep connection with Goddesses and Mother Nature's landscapes from many parts of the world. In this series, she celebrates the numerous herstories and revered divinities from ancient and modern cultures that are aligned with the natural cycles of the universe, earth, and the moon; dark and light, death and rebirth.

Carlisle employs her photography in 2D cut-out animation, collage, video, and installation, bringing the themes and stories behind nature symbolism, numerology, mythology, and ancient cultures to life. This is combined with imaginative contemporary templates that together evoke remembrance of our spiritual selves and honor feminine energies and archetypes. She creates meditative environments with her original music, photographs, mirror, film, and projection to inspire metaphorical and literal reflection.

Gary Regina will be performing live during the reception. Regina is a "one man band" who brings soundscapes to life through his multi-instrumental performance.

www.shelleycarlisle.com
Instagram: @shelleycarlislephotoart

Nevada County Creatives Meetup

Thursday, March 7, 5:00-7:00pm

Madelyn Helling Library
980 Helling Way, Nevada City

Join Nevada County Arts Council and Nevada County Library for the March Creatives Meetup.

This month we'll be celebrating Nevada County Reads and this year's exciting collaboration with the Sierra Poetry Festival, as we all enjoy Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude by Ross Gay. If you haven't already, now's your chance to pick up a copy and join along with Nevada County Reads!

Joining us is Nevada County Librarian Nick Wilczek and Madelyn Helling Adult Services Librarian, Ian Boalt as they share about upcoming events and opportunities to celebrate and enjoy our wonderful public libraries.

These monthly meetups for creatives are held on the first Thursday, co-hosted at a different location throughout the GVNC Cultural District. Meetups serve as an opportunity for artists, cultural workers, culture bearers, and the community more broadly, to get inspired, share your needs, and meet new friends. We also share invaluable state and local information, such as upcoming grant opportunities, free resources, and important news in the arts world at large.

Intern Spotlight- Easton Jacobs

Nevada County Arts Council is pleased to announce our newest intern, Easton Jacobs. They join us through the Connecting Point program, a public agency dedicated to providing programs and services that promote the health and independence of the people of our community. Easton Jacobs is also an artist and expressed an interest in working with us for this very reason.

“I like being a part of a community and helping with the community, I really love just being able to help people and be a valuable asset. I’m excited to learn about what goes on behind the scenes of events and learning how to coordinate schedules better, learn in general what there is to learn in an office space.”

As you can see by the art included here, Easton Jacobs is a talented artist, we wanted to take a moment to get to know them and their process. We asked how long they’ve been creating. “I think since I was pretty young, I always loved drawing as a little kid, and the fondness grew with me throughout the years. I think what got me into it full time though was when a show called Gravity Falls on Disney channel first aired. I think that’s when it really sparked my fire, in both my art and my writing, I loved the story and writing of Gravity Falls even to this day.”

“My mediums switch between traditional sketching and digital, I finish my drawings all the way on my phone. On top of my art, I also do character writing and story writing! I have a novel in the works currently called The Moon's Child.”

Having recently graduated from Bitney Prep where they collaborated on a school mural, we asked them what they were most proud of, along with reflecting on their own development as an artist they offered a great bit of adivce. “I’m most proud of my growth, over the years, being able to see the progress and improvement of my art is one of the things I get the most joy out of. If there are any young artists out there, never despair and never throw away art you think is bad, everything is beautiful, and years later when your art has improved, you'll wish you would have laughed and cringed over that old piece of fan-art, trust me."

We are excited for Easton Jacobs to be a part of our team and hope that their experience working with us helps them develop the skills they need to realize their dreams. "I've never really had plans for my artwork to be in any exhibitions, but for the future I want to create an online presence. For me, the reason why I want to be online rather than more local, is because growing up I've seen so many countless artists, with such a wide variety of styles, and ways of how they do things, they were a lot of the reason I kept going with art, especially when I wasn't feeling good about how my art was doing. I want to be able to become that for future young artists, someone to look up to and go "if they can do it, then so can I" that's what's so important to me. I've heard a lot of criticism in my life to the fact that I want to be an online presence more than local, and that it's a hard thing to achieve and I definitely know that, but I believe as long as I have confidence in myself and my art journey, that I'll be able to do it."

As part of their internship with us they accompanied Executive Director, Eliza Tudor on a visit to Truckee Cultural District. While there, they wrote a lovely review of the 'Art at the Airport' exhibition *Wild Women*, which runs through April 14. The following is an excerpt about exhibition artist Jennifer Rugge.

> *"Her paintings are breathtaking, and have an incredible range of differences. While they're all done generally in the same style, half of them are in grayscale, and the other half is an explosion of color, it's incredibly beautiful."*

Read Easton's Full Review

22nd Annual Foothills Celebration

Saturday, March 16th, 1:00-4:00pm

A Unique Tasting Event – Stroll, Sip, Sample, Shop!

Hosted by the Grass Valley Downtown Association, the Foothills Celebration event has continued to grow in popularity each and every year. Stroll through the streets of historic downtown Grass Valley as you sample chef specialties and delectable sweets from some of the area's finest restaurants and confectioners, all while sipping the fine wine and libations.

Your ticket includes:

- Unlimited Libation Tastings from 24 local & regional wineries, kombucharies, meade libations, and mocktails
- 5 Food Tastings
- Commemorative Wine Glass, Menu & Sponsor Bling!

The Foothills Celebration is just the therapy you'll need for a late winter weekend. Everyone is in good spirits, enjoying the stroll along Mill Street. Along with the fine wine and food, you'll be entertained by local musicians as you stroll the historic Grass Valley streets. The wineries and restaurants are all paired with downtown merchants who open their stores for this unique wine and food-tasting affair.

SIERRA STAGES
THEATER BY THE BOOK

The Understudy

Wednesday, March 13, 7:00pm

Nevada Theatre
401 Broad Street, Nevada City

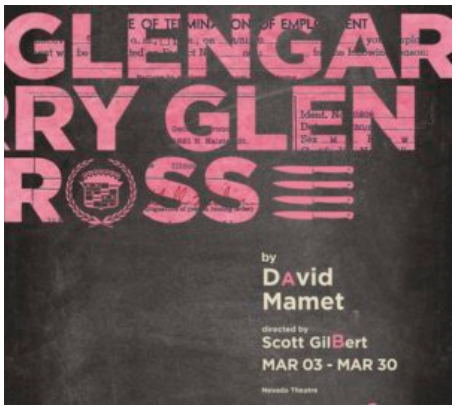
The Understudy is a dazzling comedy by Theresa Rebeck about an uphill effort to stage the Broadway premiere of a newly discovered Franz Kafka masterpiece. Professional and personal lives collide during an understudy rehearsal, when the woman in charge finds that her ex-fiance has been cast as the understudy. Throw in a stoned lightboard operator, an omnipresent intercom system, and producers threatening to shut down the show and the big question becomes: Will—and should—the show go on?

Glenngarry Glen Ross

Opening Night

Thursday, March 7, 7:30pm

Nevada Theatre
401 Broad Street, Nevada Ctiy



David Mamet's scalding comedy follows the downward slide of a group of cut-throat salesmen as they jockey for position and scramble for survival. It's con or be conned—and sometimes both—in this brutally funny examination of masculinity, capitalism, and the slippery slope of selling your soul. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Best Drama when it premiered on Broadway in 1984, don't miss the 40th-anniversary production of the show the New York Times described as "American scheming with an exactitude and delight unsurpassed by any other dramatist."

The show run weekends through March 31, Thursday-Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday matinee at 2:00pm.

Tickets available HERE

For 53 summers, the Community of Writers has brought together poets and prose writers for separate weeks of workshops in Olympic Valley, California. Their mission is to assist writers in the refinement of their craft and thus, in an atmosphere of camaraderie and mutual support, move them closer to achieving their goals.

The Poetry Workshop June 17 - 23, 2024

TEACHING STAFF

Blas Falconer • Brenda Hillman

Major Jackson • Patricia Spears Jones

Brynn Saito • Matthew Zapruder

The Poetry Workshop is founded on the belief that when poets gather in a community to write new poems, each poet may well break through old habits and write something stronger and truer than before. The idea is to try to expand the boundaries of what one can write. In the mornings we meet to read to each other the work of the previous twenty-four hours, and in the late afternoons we gather for a conversation about some aspect of craft.

The Writers Workshops July 8 - 15, 2024

special guests

Michelle Chihara • Katy Hayes

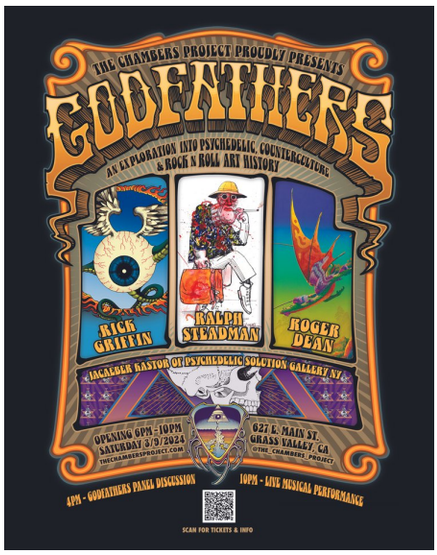
Michelle Latiolais • Susanne Pari • Amy Tan

The workshops in fiction, narrative nonfiction, and memoir assist serious writers by exploring the art and craft as well as the business of writing. The week offers daily morning workshops, craft lectures, panel discussions on editing and publishing, staff readings, and brief individual conferences.

Applications for both workshops due by March 10.

Godfathers

An Exploration Into Psychedelic, Counterculture, and Rock&Roll Art History



The Cambers Project
627 E. Main Street
Grass Valley

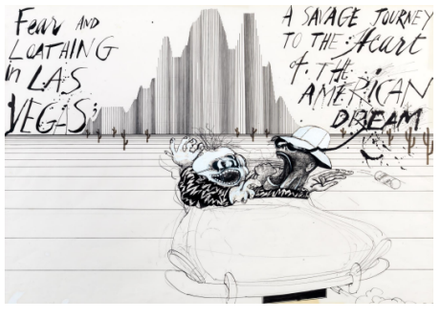
Opening Reception
Saturday March 9, 6:00-10:00pm

The Chambers Project has announced an important and historic exhibit of paintings and drawings from the flowering era of psychedelic art.

Many writers have described the social circumstances of psychedelic art, especially its coalescence in San Francisco during the second half of the decade, but few have treated it with the respect and care of an art historian. Chambers has a unique eye for cultural iconograph and the centerpieces of Godfathers Exhibition are paintings and drawings by three master artists of the era – historically important and iconic imagery by Roger Dean, Ralph Steadman, and Rick Griffin.

Roger Dean is a living legend of visionary art. His art has consistently explored floating themes of freedom from the heavy weight of ordinary experience, imagining new, evolving worlds, and a cross-cultural mingling of Eastern and Western aesthetics. His paintings have been reproduced in more than a hundred million prints. Chambers has acquired Dean's most important works for the exhibit, showing the iconic Relayer, a beautiful image of horsemen riding through a gracefully sculpted desert canyon of fanned stone rising impossibly over a scene of two desert vipers, ready to strike. The painting was licensed by the band Yes for their classic album.

Only the punkish British artist Ralph Steadman could equal the deranged writing of Hunter Thompson. Steadman was the visual sidekick companion to



Thompson when the famed gonzo journalist wrote his insanely drug-infested novel, “Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.” While Thompson cranked out smashed sheets of staccato typing, Steadman drew the iconic images which illustrated the deranged story, and they were eternally tied to it when the book became a masterpiece of American literature. Steadman is the splattered master of fast and dirty drawings of the subterranean life that thrives beneath the surface of respectable society. He says he paints the ‘underfilth.’ For the exhibit, Chambers has secured Steadman’s historic original inks from Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas, which were first printed in Rolling Stone magazine, together with the famous Rolling Stone cover portrait of President Nixon and other drawings from Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail.

The great Rick Griffin is another of the iconic artists of the era in the show. Chambers has included the original artwork created for the excruciatingly rare poster known as “The Flying Eyeball” designed by Griffin to advertise a concert by Jimi Hendrix. The poster has a legendary status among the rock poster collecting community, for it is as elusive and rare as a white buffalo, and the original art is an artifact of extraordinary significance and value.

Giving the exhibit some streetwise context, Chambers is hanging the unique neon sign designed by artist Peter Max which once advertised Jacaeber Kastor’s Psychedelic Solution gallery storefront in New York City. (The store’s sticker-plastered doors are in the collection of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland.) Kastor organized exhibits of psychedelic art throughout the end of the 20th century, and recognized the cultural significance of printed LSD blotter sheets as vanishing useful art.

As living memory becomes history, The Chambers Project exhibit Godfathers is an important step on the road to saving the treasures and stories of an extraordinary era, gathering many of the most important milestones of this essential stream of Western art.

Sunday, March 10th, 2:00 - 8:00pm

Gold Vibe Kombuchary
12615 Charles Drive, Grass Valley

Featuring our beloved Rebel Marketplace and a unique curated program monthly, highlighting thought leaders, transformational guides, live performances, and more!

- Explore purpose-driven creations, connect with passionate vendors, and co-create a love revolution.
- Curated program featuring 30+ Creative Catalysts: (Heart)ists, Makers, Coaches, Healers
- Buy, Sell, Trade at the local marketplace
- Networking, Workshops, Talks, Live Music, Drinks & Food
- Family-Friendly environment

Admission: Free entry before 3:00pm! Kids under 14 free all day. $10 Advance, $15 Door tickets. More information at www.wearerebelmarket.com

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Painted Mandolin

with Special Guests
Achilles Wheel Trio

Saturday, March 16th
Bar opens 7:00pm
Show begins 8:00pm

The Miners Foundry
325 Spring Street, Nevada City

The Miners Foundry Cultural Center is pleased to present Painted Mandolin featuring Joe Craven with Achilles Wheel Trio.

A dynamic, acoustic journey through Jerry Garcia's repertoire and beyond. Painted Mandolin offers original arrangements of jams with surprising twists. The quartet gets your toes tapping and you dancing in the aisles.

Opening is Achilles Wheel. This tro blurs the lines between genres with a mix of infectious high energy dance beats and stark lyrical ballads. Roots rock storytelling combined with dance hall psychedelia.

$22.50-$25 General Admission

Call to Artists

The Center for the Arts announces an open call for artwork of all mediums to be a part of the 'MISFITS' juried exhibition at the Granucci Gallery. Artists are invited to submit artwork for consideration, and selected works will be on view from June 7 to July 27.

The show will be juried by local multimedia artist and arts educator, Chris Dacre who will choose artwork based on the exhibition theme. 'MISFITS' is seeking original artwork in any medium that stands out as the misfit of a studio or art practice. This exhibition is about artworks that don't quite fit in. We're looking for your anomalies that don't play nice with the rest of your art. Maybe a great one-off. What about the piece you made that started an entirely new body of work? Take a look around the nooks and crannies of your studio. Do what you have to do, but find art that has been waiting for its time in the spotlight- because it may never get a second chance.

For more informaiton and to apply, visit The Center for the Arts website.

Art of the Burn

Opening Reception

Saturday, March 9
6:00-8:00pm

Odd Fellows Seven Stars Gallery &
Gathering Place

210 Spring Street
Nevada City

Youth Art Presents

Bird Cameron

Saturday, March 9
6:00-8:00pm

Odd Fellows Seven Stars Gallery &
Gathering Place

210 Spring Street
Nevada City

Seven Stars Gallery and Gathering Place is open Thrusdays, 10:00-4:00pm and Friday-Saturday 10:00-5:00pm

Second Saturday with Beth Leydon

Saturday, March 9, 1:00-4:00pm

ArtWorks Gallery
113 Mill Street, Grass Valley

Beth Leydon will be doing a demonstration of “nuno” felting, which is a Japanese word meaning cloth or fabric. She’ll show how to meld loose wool fiber into woven scraps of silk with nothing more than soapy water and manual agitation, to produce a wearable piece of art.

Locally sourced materials are utilized whenever possible. She offers classes and workshops at her home studio as well as community maker spaces.

Find out more about Beth Leydon.

Fandango!

Sunday, March 17, 2:00pm
complimentary pre-concert talk at 1:15

Seventh-day Adventist Church
12889 Osborne Hill Road, Grass Valley

InConcert Sierra presents their Third Sunday concert series with one of the most unique and exciting ensembles on the classical music circuit, FANDANGO! - a quartet performing a mix of Spanish, Latin-American, Balkan, Sephardic and traditional classical music.

Hailing from Spain, France, Bosnia, and Taiwan, the four multi-award-winning virtuosi have appeared on the world's most prestigious stages, earning accolades from the international press. Given their global recognition and diverse backgrounds, this ensemble brings a rich tapestry of musical influences to their performances.

The combination of flute, violin, guitar and cello is quite unusual. While the repertoire may rely on new arrangements due to the uncommon instrumentation, this also allows for creative reinterpretation of existing pieces. Their colorful program will include works by Boccherini, Miroslav Tadic, de Falla, and Rivera, along with two timeless favorites, “Carmen Fantasy” by Thomas, and “Winter” from Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons.”

“After their last sensational, multi-standing ovation performance, Eugenia and Denis told me about their Fandango! Ensemble with incredible enthusiasm. I knew I wanted to present them as soon as possible. They will also be performing for over 600 third-grade Western Nevada County students in our “Just for You” concerts on Monday, March 18. The students won’t know what hit them-the quartet is truly sensational and exhilarating,” InConcert Sierra Artistic Director Ken Hardin.

General admission tickets are $48 for adults and free for youth 18 and under.

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