

Welcome to Culture Connection

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



Nevada County Media "Pitch Night"

If you have an idea for a series, a film, etc....then this event is for you. On **Wednesday**,

February 5th, at 5:30pm [Nevada County Media](#) will host "Pitch Night". This event is for Members Only and is a great opportunity to meet other members. You will be given 5-7 minutes to pitch your project idea.

You will be pitching your idea both to Nevada County Media to possibly help produce your project, and to fellow members to solicit their help.

This event is for folks who want to produce and/or to work on a crew for other members' projects. Your pitch must include detailed needs (how many crew, length, how many episodes, etc). Nevada County Media is currently considering only video (in-studio) projects but members may be willing to work on a variety of projects.

This event will be repeated, at 5:30pm, on the first Wednesday of each month through 2020.

BECOME A MEMBER



Sierra Harvest Sustainable Food & Farm Conference

The 10th annual [Sierra Harvest Sustainable Food & Farm Conference](#) takes place **February 7th through 9th** at Nevada Union High School. The event includes a farm tour, keynote speakers, demonstrations and workshops. It is a wonderful way for newcomers to learn more about growing and eating locally sourced food, but also for those who are well versed in the practice of farming and ranching.

Craft your own curriculum as a sustainable farmer, gardener or foodie; build connections with the food and farm community; and connect with organizations and businesses that can help you succeed.

Keynote Speakers:

- Dr. Vandana Shiva, international food sovereignty activist and author
- Paul & Elizabeth Kaiser, no-till, climate-smart ecological farmers at Singing Frogs Farm
- Jim Gerrish, award winning rancher, grazing for soil health

The mission of Sierra Harvest's Sustainable Food & Farm Conference is to:

- Stimulate and motivate members in our community to become active in our local food and farm movement
- Educate through internationally recognized, dynamic speakers
- Foster a sense of community within our local food and farming - movement, and
- Bring greater awareness and support to our local food and farming movement

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



Marie Wolfe at Nevada City Winery

[Nevada City Winery](#) will host [Marie Wolfe's](#) painting exhibit "Living Through Layers Seen and Unseen", from February 6th through March 2nd.

Describing her work, Marie says, "Living out loud through layers seen and unseen, through weight, depth and texture, I work to discover the mystery and realm where abstraction and realism meet. My intention is that my work have complexity, simplicity and a sense of history. I like to say that my work is informed by the idea of impermanence as I build up and scrape away marks and gestures, at times covering other paintings."

The opening reception is Friday, February 7th, from 5-7pm.

Photos: Marie Wolfe in her studio; Abstract #15



Sierra Theaters Presents "Porgy & Bess"

On **Saturday, February 8th, at 9:55am**, [Sierra Theaters](#) presents "Porgy and Bess", broadcast live from Lincoln Center in New York City. The opera is being shown at Sierra Cinemas, at 840-C E. Main Street in Grass Valley, in partnership with [InConcert Sierra](#) and [Music in the Mountains](#).

The Gershwins' modern American masterpiece has its first Met performances in almost three decades, starring bass-baritone Eric Owens and soprano Angel Blue in the title roles. Director James Robinson's stylish production transports audiences to Catfish Row, a setting vibrant with the music, dancing, emotion, and heartbreak of its inhabitants.

Program run time is 3 hours and 40 minutes; assisted listening devices are available.

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



Finding Bill Fay

Joshua Henry is a local songwriter, producer devoted to old-school analog technology, and owner of [City Council](#) in Nevada City. Growing up, he never understood why his father owned [“Time of the Last Persecution,”](#) an obscure 1971 psychedelic-folk album by the British songwriter [Bill Fay](#).

Henry's father Jamie wasn't a record collector. He had served in Vietnam before becoming an antiwar activist, then spent his final four decades as a logger. “Last Persecution” was never issued in the United States, and barely caused a blip in England's crowded singer-songwriter scene of the early '70s. After its release, Fay vanished from music.

All his life, Henry remained curious about the Fay album, and after his father's death, he began trying to make good on a fantasy they had shared: to find Fay and help him make his first record since 1971.

Last month, Fay released [“Countless Branches”](#), his third album in the 10 years since Henry tracked him down. Fay has now made as many studio albums this decade as in the previous six combined.

Photo: Bill Fay and Joshua Henry

Photo Credit: NY Times

READ THE COMPLETE ARTICLE IN THE NY TIMES



Nevada City Chinese Lunar New Year Festival and Parade

The [Nevada City Chinese Lunar New Year Festival and Parade](#) welcomes the Year of the Rat, on **Sunday, February 9th, at noon**. Chinese New Year Festivals are rare in rural communities, and [CATS](#), along with [Miners Foundry Cultural Center](#), are proud to present this ninth annual family-friendly celebration, honoring the early Chinese Gold Rush pioneers and railroad workers of the Sierra. **The community parade begins at 12:00 noon at Robinson Plaza** and culminates at Miners Foundry for an afternoon of Asian culture and entertainment, food, and fun! Admission at Miners Foundry is free; food and drinks are available for purchase.

This year's parade Grand Marshals are Erin and Dan Thiem of [Outside Inn](#) and [Inn Town Campground](#). Parade units include Chinese ceremonial Lion Dancers and a 72' Chinese Dragon from Eastern Ways Martial Arts of Sacramento, [Grass Valley Taiko](#) drummers, school children, and other community entries



Nevada County "Poetry Out Loud" Championships

On **Tuesday, February 11th at 6pm**, the Nevada County "Poetry Out Loud" Championships will be held at the [Eric Rood Center](#) at 950 Maidu Avenue in Nevada City. This is a free event and open to the public.

["Poetry Out Loud"](#) is a National Recitation contest that, for us, begins in Nevada County classrooms. It is sponsored by [Nevada County Arts](#), [GVNC Cultural District](#) and the [Sierra Poetry Festival](#). Nevada County Arts works in schools across Nevada County to coach and mentor students in collaboration with [California Poets in the Schools \(CPITS\)](#) and the Nevada County Arts Literary Arts Committee

Through "Poetry Out Loud", high school students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. Participants in Poetry Out Loud are also offered an opportunity to recite their poems at the Sierra Poetry Festival which takes place on Saturday, April 18th, 2020.



Nevada County Arts Presents "The Business of Art"

Nevada County Arts' "[The Business of Art](#)" is a day of presentations and professional development sessions for the creative community. This event will be held on **Saturday, February 29th, from 8:45am to 4:30pm** at the [Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning](#) at 505 Main Street in Nevada City.

Marketing and media workshops, business planning, partnerships, legal advice, and mentoring will be offered at this multi-partner event, with expert speakers, panelists, workshop leaders and facilitators selected both locally and from across California. **The complete program is [here](#).**

This symposium provides a platform for those working in our local and regional creative industries to engage in discussions around pressing current cultural, artistic and professional issues. Attendees will participate in sessions exploring the top trends and challenges in our field. Registration is now open.

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)



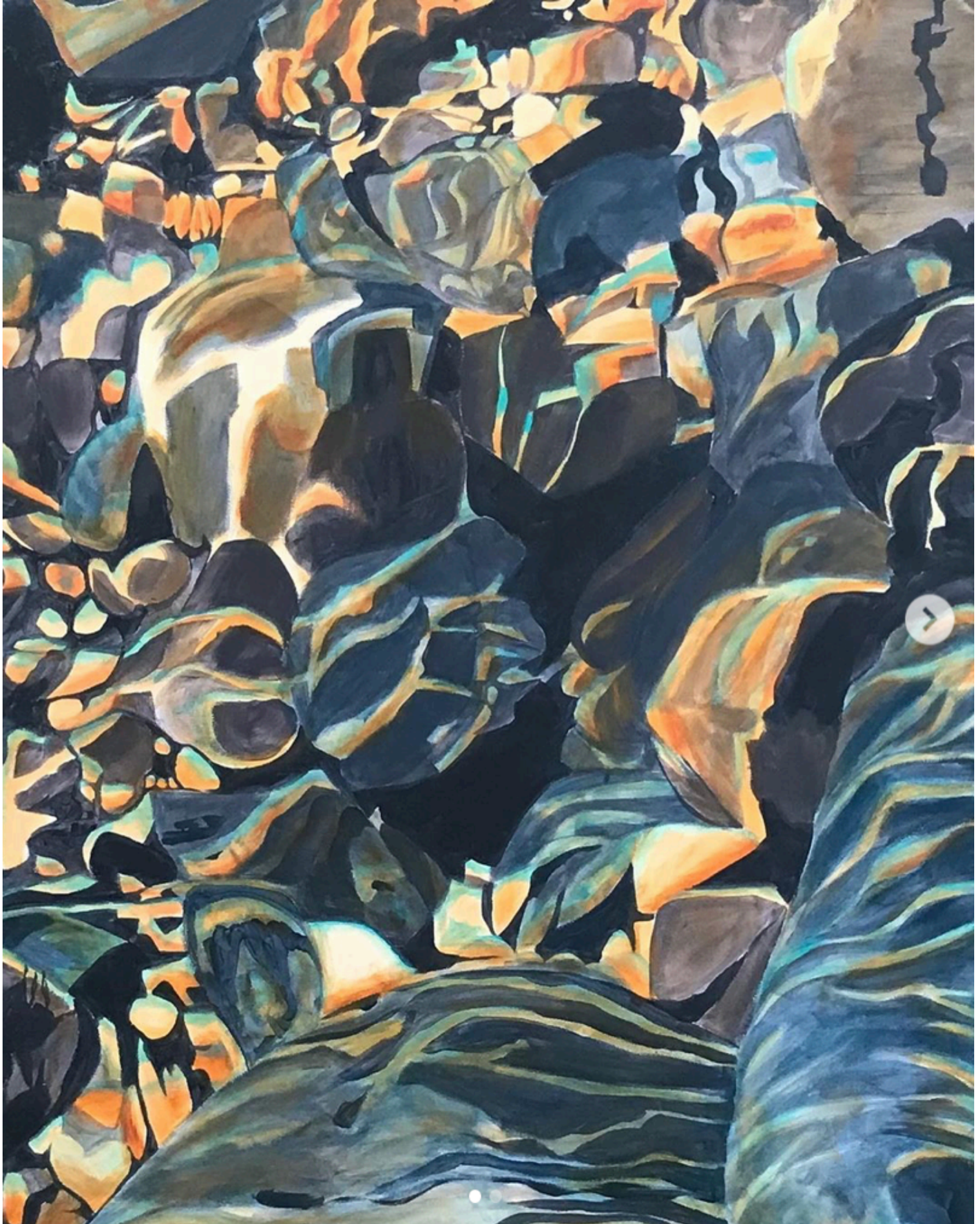
[#GVNCCulturalDistrict on Instagram](#)

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.)



[#ncfigurativeart](#)



[#yubariverlove](#)

