GRASS VALLEY-NEVADA CITY
# CULTURAL DISTRICT
CULTURE CONNECTIONS

## Welcome to Culture Connection

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

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## May Creatives Meetup

**Thursday, May 8**
**5:00-7:00pm**

Indian Springs Art & Cultural Center (IASCC)
18775 Indian Springs Road, Penn Valley

Join us for our monthly gathering of artists, creatives, and cultural leaders. Share upcoming projects and opportunities, connect with fellow creatives, and help us strengthen the collaborative ecosystem that supports artists, performers, and cultural workers in our region.

This month's meetup will be hosted at the Indian Springs Art & Cultural Center (IASCC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit arts center in Penn Valley. Founded by Jeremy Hall, the center aims to be a place where creatives can gather, collaborate, and support one another. Hear from Jeremy about his vision for the center, the work he's doing to bring artists together, and how you can get involved.

Join us for Nevada County's open, collaborative, and supportive creative community. Bring your curiosity, your ideas, and your willingness to meet other people who care about the arts in this region.

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## MUSE
### Release Party

**Monday, May 4**
**5:00-8:30pm**

Vista Tree: Nevadan Art Gallery
105 Broad Street, Nevada City

Vista Tree Gallery is proud to host the release party for MUSE — a book in and of and about the arts in Nevada County, with photographs, and cultural leanings of Nevada County and our Sierra California neighbors.

Nevada County's arts community has long been a quiet powerhouse along with the Yuba, Nevada, Placer, Sierra, Plumas, and Lassen counties. This collection celebrates what this community is and what it means to live and create here.

MUSE is a book of photos and stories about the people, the places, and the cultural leanings of Nevada County and our Sierra California neighbors.

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## Artist Spotlight
### Jonny Hale

This month our spotlight artist is Jonny Hale, a Nevada City based artist whose work explores the intersection of science, spirituality, and the human experience. Jonny's work has been featured in the film "Project Wild Edges in the Rock Creek Valley" and he is currently working on a new film exploring the relationship between human consciousness and the natural world, including the role of psychedelics in that relationship. Jonny's work blends scientific and spiritual inquiry with a deep sense of place, inviting viewers into a conversation about how we perceive and relate to the world around us.

Jonny's work has been featured locally and in the film community, including at Nevada City's Rhythm & Roots Festival, where his work was shown in the festival's film program. He is also a member of the Nevada City Film Society and has been involved in local conversations around creative collaboration and cultural exchange in the region.

Jonny's work is rooted in curiosity, breathing, and deep attention to the natural world. He describes his creative process as being shaped by long periods of observation, allowing himself to be guided by what he sees and feels in the moment rather than by a fixed idea or outcome. This approach shows up in his work as a sense of patience and presence, with a strong emphasis on letting the subject reveal itself over time.

Jonny's work is currently being shaped by his own journey with psychedelics and by his ongoing exploration of how altered states can offer new ways of seeing and understanding the world. He is interested in how these experiences can support creativity, perception, and a sense of connection between people and their environment, and he is exploring how he can bring that into his work in a grounded, thoughtful way.

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If you've been to the Nut Tree Grand Gala, you have probably seen Jonny and his creations at the Grand Gala raffle. Jonny's work has been featured in the Nut Tree Grand Gala raffle for the past three years, and he has been a regular participant in the Grand Gala for the past four years. This year, he will be sharing a booth with the Mariposa Valley. The Valley usually curates the Grand Gala raffle, and Jonny's work has been a standout piece in the raffle for several years. The Grand Gala is a fundraiser for a number of awesome nonprofits and historical organizations. This year, the Grand Gala will benefit the Nevada County Arts Council, the Nevada County Historical Society, and the Nut Tree Foundation. The Grand Gala is a great way to support the arts and local history in our community, and it's a great way to see some of the amazing work being created by artists like Jonny.

We hope you can join us for an opportunity to share artwork on the Grand Gala and celebrate creative and cultural leadership in our community. Jonny's work is a great example of how creativity can be rooted in place and still speak to something much larger. We're looking forward to seeing what "right" looks like for him this year, and we hope you'll be there to see it, support the raffle, and celebrate the work being done by artists and organizations across our region.

Visit our Gallery Page

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## Iona Swift + Ginger Mélasses
### Jazz Fables

**Thursday, May 19th**
**7:00-10:00pm**
Wine Eye Pub
535 SR 20West, Grass Valley

Join the Wine Eye Pub special event as Swift and Mélasses, a duo that blends jazz, folk, and storytelling, presents Jazz Fables, a show that explores the intersection of music and narrative.

Iona Swift, Nevada City vocalist, flute player, and songwriter, and Ginger Mélasses, the duo's acoustic bass player, will perform a set of original songs and instrumentals, with stories between songs that explain the inspiration behind the music. Jazz Fables is a show for anyone who enjoys live music, storytelling, and a relaxed evening out in a local pub setting.

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## La Luz + Rosett Bone
### Jazz Quartet

**Saturday, May 16th**
**8:00pm-10:00pm**

The Ram
100 Commercial Street, Nevada City

The Ram presents a night of jazz on Saturday. The night will feature two sets from:

- La Luz on the Mandolin/vocal guitar
- Rosett Bone on guitar/vocal
- Lucus Hernandez/bass

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## Fall Fables + Rose Lyon
### + Nightmare + Anna Mulhaney

**Sunday, May 18th**
**2:00-5:00pm**
Nevada Theatre
101 Broad Street, Nevada City

Join us for an afternoon of performances and a celebration of the Nevada Film Fest and not for profit Nevada Theatre Film Society. Fall Fables will open the afternoon with their Grammy Award winning Americana music, followed by Rose Lyon, a Nevada City based singer-songwriter, and Nightmare, a Nevada City Americana duo. Anna Mulhaney will close the afternoon with a set of her original music.

- Anna Mulhaney: Songwriter, vocalist, guitar
- Fall Fables: Folk Pop Fall Whimsy Fun
- Nightmare: Rose Lyon + Nate Lyon

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## Reflecting on Arts
### Advocacy Day

Join Nevada County arts advocates and key men with elected officials for a day of conversation, reflection, and shared learning. This gathering is a chance for the arts community to come together to pause, to reflect, and to reconnect around what matters most to us as we move into the next chapter of our work.

Advocacy Day is a time to hear from our elected officials and meet the decision-makers who shape arts funding and policy at the local and state level. It's also a time to celebrate what we've accomplished together, to honor the relationships that have grown over time, and to ground ourselves in why this work matters and what it means for strengthening the vitality of our culture, economy, and shared spaces.

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## Keep our Momentum Going!
### Action to Engage Governor Newsom

On Friday, May 22nd from 4:00-5:00 PM Pacific Time, a group of arts leaders will be participating in the nonprofit Zoom Town Hall with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to discuss the impact of the state's Arts Recovery Fund (ARF) and the broader challenges facing the arts sector. You can watch live coverage of this town hallhere or on the Governor's YouTube channel.

Let's ride the wave of momentum from Arts Advocacy Day and keep the conversation going! Please share your own message of thanks during the town hall, or simply tune in to show your support.

Let's ride the wave, and keep the momentum going!

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## Wirkuta Preservation
### Project Benefit Exhibition

**Saturday, May 9**
**6:00-11:00pm**

Nevada Theatre
101 S. Pine Street, Nevada City

Wirkuta Preservation Project Benefit Exhibition is a celebration of art in support of the Wirkuta Preservation Project.

WPC™ is dedicated to science-guided ecological restoration and cultural healing in the Wirkuta bioregion of the Chihuahuan Desert of Mexico. Wirkuta is the ancestral homeland of the Wixárika people, and the ongoing impacts of industrial agriculture, mining, and climate change have created conditions that have brought their culture and ecosystem to the brink of collapse.

Alongside the conversations and, the exhibition will also feature a curated selection of work by artists who have spent time in Wirkuta, including photographs, paintings, and other pieces inspired by the place, and the communities of Nuevo Huaxtepec.

Special musical guests **A Fine Madness** and **Mariposa Band** will be on hand to provide **Celtic Music Venue** music.

Wirkuta Preservation Project Benefit Exhibition

Saturday, May 9
6:00-11:00pm
Nevada Theatre
101 S. Pine Street, Nevada City

Purchasers are an art preservationist of ecological restoration and cultural anthropologist artists.

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## Nevada City
### Spring Craft Fair

**Sunday, May 3**
**10:00am-4:00pm**

Wheels Foundry
325 Spring Street, Nevada City

Nevada City Spring Craft Fair is a vibrant celebration of creativity and community, bringing together over 75 of the top local artisans, designers, and makers for a day of shopping, connection, and inspiration. Attendees will find a curated selection of handmade jewelry, home decor, apparel, and other one-of-a-kind creations, all in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

Among past exhibitors of this event are some of the most talented artisans in Nevada City, including Jewelry by Jessica, Jewelry by Jessica, Jewelry by Jessica, and Jewelry by Jessica. Whether you're looking for a special piece for yourself or a thoughtful gift for someone else, this event is a great way to support local artists and discover something truly unique.

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## DJ Dance Night
### KVMN's A Go Go

**Friday, May 1st**
**7:00pm-Doors Open | 8:00pm Show**

Join us for an unforgettable night of music, dance, and community as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of KVMN's A Go Go! Red Hot is such a high expectation, so we're bringing in the hottest DJs and dancers to make this weekend one to remember. Doors open at 7:00pm, and the show kicks off at 8:00pm.

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## Graham Parker
### with Brett Dresely opening

**Saturday, May 1st**
**Doors Open | 8:00pm Show**

One of the sharpest songwriters of the 1 of 5 and more to the Nevada City Stage. Graham Parker, Brett Dresely opening. Wondrous Rock for the post-modernist.

Selling Fast.

Some of the 1970s smart-mouthed rock-and-roll songwriters have gone on to become elder statesmen of the genre, but Graham Parker remains a fiercely independent voice, delivering sharp-witted lyrics and gritty guitars in equal measure.

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## Andre Nickatina

**Sunday, May 10**
**8:00pm Doors Open | 9:00pm Show**

Andre Nickatina with Nevada City Comedian Kathy Ryan

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo and the 50th anniversary of the iconic Nevada Theatre with a night of music, laughter, and unforgettable memories. Kathy Ryan, a beloved local comedian, brings her hilarious stories and sharp wit to the stage, ensuring everyone leaves with a smile and a story to tell.

Andre gets on the stage performing his hit single "Hoe" in Foundry, so don't miss performing tickets to this show!

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## 37th Annual
### Grass Valley Car Show

**Saturday, May 4**
**10:00am-3:00pm**

1600 Sheet & Mars Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Two spectacular days of classic cars, food, and fun! Enjoy antique and hot rods in a field of dreams, celebrate the Grass Valley Car Show's 37th anniversary, and support the Foundation for the Advancement of Veterinary Medicine!

Grass Valley Car Show is one of Gold Country's finest and most well-attended car shows, with over 1,000 cars and thousands of visitors downtown Grass Valley.

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## Sequoia Rhapsody
### and Project Wild Edges

**Monday, May 4**
**8:30pm Doors Open | 7:00pm Show**

Nevada Theatre
401 Broad Street, Nevada City

Sequoia Rhapsody Presents Sequoia Rhapsody and Project Wild Edges

Nevada Theatre, Nevada City's historic home for live music and performance, is proud to host Sequoia Rhapsody and Project Wild Edges, two Grammy-nominated bluegrass ensembles known for their intricate arrangements, high-energy live performances, and deep roots in traditional bluegrass and Appalachian music. Tickets are available now.

"Wow, I love the way you all make music! It's so fun to watch and listen to!" Nevada City resident Ann Hall said after a recent Sequoia Rhapsody show. "I'm so glad you're coming back to the Nevada Theatre!"

The shared commitment of all sides is a family tradition in bluegrass, with roots in Appalachian music and community gathering.

TWO VENUES. IN Jaw-dropping. Come and be inspired.




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## Second Saturday at
### Art Works Gallery

**Featured Artist & Demo**
**Fall Grass - Photography**

**Saturday, May 11**
**11:00 AM - Grass Valley**

Fall Grass has been a photographer for over 40 years. Photography has been a lifelong passion, and he has remained beautiful in photographing the beauty of nature. Fall Grass's photographs are characterized by a sense of wonder, and he has demonstrated his ability to capture the beauty of the natural world.

Nature is a major theme in Fall Grass's photographs, and he has demonstrated his ability to capture the beauty of the natural world in a way that is both accurate and evocative. Fall Grass's photographs are characterized by a sense of wonder, and he has demonstrated his ability to capture the beauty of the natural world in a way that is both accurate and evocative. Fall Grass's photographs are characterized by a sense of wonder, and he has demonstrated his ability to capture the beauty of the natural world in a way that is both accurate and evocative.




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A FREE Music Workshop:
Into to Cultural Community Music

**4:00-7:00pm**

'Uba Seo Nisenan Arts & Culture
225 Broad Street, Nevada City

Join 'Uba Seo for a dynamic 3-hour workshop exploring the intersection of culture, community, and the arts through the vibrant medium of muralism. Participants will gain practical insights involved in bringing a mural to life, rooted in visual storytelling, allyship, and cultural values. Engage in interactive discussions and hands-on activities as we will delve into the pivotal role of the 'Cultural Community Artist', utilizing art as a powerful tool to innovate positive social transformation.

Participants will get the chance to learn from Cultural Community Artist and Muralist, Nikila Badua, who worked with CHIRP and the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe to create the "solim ni - I sing" mural in downtown Grass Valley, as well as the new three-wall indoor mural currently at 'Uba Seo: Nisenan Arts and Culture, as part of "The Story of Land, Water and People Exhibit".

This workshop, as well as the 'Uba Seo indoor mural, titled "Etymology of the Land", was created through CHIRP's Visibility Through Art program, and funded in part by the California Arts Council, a state agency through the Upstate California Creative Corps program, administered by Nevada County Arts Council.

Please register online at
www.ubaseo.org

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# Rebel Market Special Edition Re/Birth - Honoring the Divine Feminine

**Sunday, May 12**
**2:00-8:00pm**

Gold Vibe Kombuchary
12615 Charles Drive, Grass Valley

Rebel Market, the beloved community marketplace and faire (30+ creative vendors, performers & catalysts) known for its vibrant energy, join together in commitment to fostering connections, announce a special edition event: Re/Birth - Honoring the Divine Feminine.

This month's event falls on Mother's Day, making it the perfect opportunity to celebrate the nurturing essence of mother earth, mothers and the strength of the divine feminine. Re/Birth invites attendees to delve into the sacredness of birth, growth, and renewal.

You can expect a day filled with enriching activities like a mama mixer - kids zone - spa stations, heartwarming performances, and insightful workshops. From the opening invocation by Amberay of Light to the soul-stirring music of Amaruka Sol & AyaHarmony, every moment is crafted to nourish the mind, body, and soul.

## Highlights Include:

- Kids/Family Zone, Baby Chics Project, Facepainting, Spa/Healing Stations, MAMA
- Mixer/Resource Sharing
- Opening Invocation with Amberay of Light
- Womb Blessing & Song with Amara Amethyst
- Sacred Song Circle with AmritaVidya Lauren
- "Seasons of Love" by the Cast of Rent
- Rebel Talks - RE/BIRTH Stories for Local Wombyn
- Live Music Performances: Cello Joe, Amaruka Sol & AyaHarmony

## What to expect:

- Community Exchange Booth learn more about our program development to co-create a new economy together
- Explore purpose-driven creations from 30+ Creatives
- Engage with local artists, speakers, and community leaders
- Join the Re/Birth Panel discussing Mother's Day
- Enjoy live music, interactive workshops, and thought-provoking discussions
- Savor dishes from local food vendors Vegan Circus + Kombucha
- Connect with like-minded individuals passionate about sustainability and social change
- Enjoy a Kids Zone and Family-Friendly activities
- Celebrate inclusivity and diversity.

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ART MOVES MOUNTAINS
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

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