

Rotary Arts Minute 8/21/2023 Information provided by the



[Community Arts Awards now accepting nominations](#)

Nominations for the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK)'s 2023 Community Arts Awards are being accepted now through October 10, 2023. Nominations can be submitted online through the ACGK website at <https://www.kalamazooarts.org>. Award categories include the Community Medal of Arts, Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service, Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award, Business Arts Award, Epic Award, and Gayle Hoogstraten Arts Leadership Award. The Community Arts Awards will be announced on Oct. 31, 2023, and honorees will be celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Gull Lake Center for Fine Arts.



[ARTbreak with the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo](#)

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 12:00 pm

Admission is free, but pre-registration is encouraged!

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

During this ARTbreak, Kristen Chesak, Executive Director of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, presents the People's Choice Award to the 2023 winner. The award announcement is followed by a presentation by ACGK Operations Manager/Membership Director Eric Oliphant and Programs Director Kim Shaw. Oliphant and Shaw discuss artist resources available through the organization, including grants, fiscal sponsorship, programming, and ACGK member benefits. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about the Arts Council and its ongoing impact on the Greater Kalamazoo community, and don't forget to visit our galleries by Sunday, August 20, to cast your vote for the People's Choice Award!



[The Art of Making, from Thought to Process](#)

Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Admission is \$5 for KIA members and \$10 for nonmembers. Purchase online or at the door.

Presented by [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#) at [Kalamazoo Institute of Arts](#), 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI

Artist Mami Kato, whose striking sculpture *Umbilical Field* is part of the *Sugoi! 200 Years of Japanese Art* exhibition, joins us to offer insights into her artistic inspiration and her process of creation. Kato is a Japanese-born artist, currently based in Philadelphia. Her older work is about examining and reconnecting with her early life. For example, she has often used rice stalks as a material for her sculpture,

something that has both a close connection to her childhood surroundings, and also a historical significance and symbolic meaning within Japanese culture. More recently, Kato's focus has been shifting from her own personal life to more general human experience. Influenced both by Japanese Buddhism and science, she explores the intangible systems of energy and order that pervade the natural world, as well as humanity's position within them.

Kato graduated from Musashino Art University and Tokyo School of Art in Japan and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Since relocating from Tokyo to the United States in 1992, she has been showing actively both in the U.S. and abroad. Her work has been exhibited in galleries, art fairs, and museums worldwide, and she has works in private, corporate, and museum collections, including the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



City of Portage-Friday at the Flats

Friday, August 25, 2023 at 4:30 pm

Presented by [City of Portage Parks & Recreation](#) at [Celery Flats - Historical Area](#), 7335 Garden Lane, Portage

Friday at the Flats returns to the Celery Flats Pavilion in 2023. Join us on the fourth Friday of every month, May through September, for dinner and experience a range of food trucks and live, local musicians. Seating is limited, but lawn space is plentiful, so bring a blanket or chair. Connect with your family and friends at Celery Flats through food, live music, and fun.



Lunchtime Live! - Ben Traverse

Friday, August 25, 2023 at 11:30 am

Presented by [City of Kalamazoo Parks & Recreation](#) at [Bronson Park](#), 200 W South Street

Lunchtime Live! presented by [Lake Michigan Credit Union](#) offers live music, games, food, and fun every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Bronson Park.

Food and retail will be available for purchase. Food trucks will be lined up along Bronson Park on South Street and other vendors will be set up throughout the park. Each week will feature a different local musical artist. This is a free event, and all community members are welcome.



[New Date! Kalamazoo Avenue Band - Hosted by Oshtemo Friends of the Parks](#)

Sunday, Aug 27, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Presented by [Oshtemo Friends of the Parks](#) at [Flesher Field](#), 3664 South 9th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

We were rained out for our previous concert date – so we rescheduled Kalamazoo Avenue Band for Sunday August 27. Kalamazoo Avenue Band – Classic Rock through the decades! Hosted by Oshtemo Friends of the Parks. 6:00pm-7:30pm. Flesher Field Park (3664 S. 9th St, Kalamazoo MI 49009)

Event Details:

Free admission! Bring a chair or blanket for lawn seating. Picnics welcome! Alcohol, smoking and vaping are prohibited. Bring cash to purchase a \$1 raffle ticket! Win a \$25 gift certificate to an Oshtemo restaurant. Proceeds will support construction of the proposed Fruit Belt Rail Trail! **Concert will be rescheduled in the event of rain.** Updates will be posted here and on Oshtemo Friends of the Parks' Facebook page.