

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo  
Rotary Report  
December 13 - 19, 2021

12/10/21

MUSIC



**Sounds of the Season.** Friday, Saturday, Dec 17, 2021 - Dec 18, 2021 at 3:00 pm, 7:30 pm. Presented by Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra at Chenery Auditorium, 714 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Our annual holiday concert is the perfect tradition to share with family and friends. Enjoy dinner out, then join us at Chenery Auditorium for classic Hanukkah and Christmas music. We're pleased to include Howard Blake's classic animated short film, The Snowman, this year, performed live to film with orchestra, soloists, and narration. Performers: Julian Kuerti, Conductor, The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. Program: Estimated length of musical performances: Approximately 75 minutes (no

intermission planned). KSO's safety and attendance policies now include vaccine and mask requirements. See Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's full safety requirements.



**Will Downing.** Saturday, Dec 18, 2021 at 8:00 pm. Presented by Kalamazoo State Theatre, 404 S. Burdick, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

The Prince of Sophisticated Soul, Will Downing is bringing his smooth sounds to the historic Kalamazoo State Theatre, Saturday, December 18. With a career that spans over 34 years and 24 albums, Will Downing is one of the most versatile and loved voices of our time. His repertoire consists of signature interpretations of R&B classics like "I Go Crazy", "Wishing On A Star" and "I Try", with original hits "A Million Ways", "Sorry I" and the show-stopping duet with Rachelle Ferrell, "Nothing Has Ever Felt Like This".

His distinctive baritone voice has resonated in the hearts of women world-wide and carved a unique niche in the music marketplace. With fresh melodies and lush arrangements that satisfy all musical palates, Downing continues to serve his fan base through his own Sophisticated Soul record label and sold out tour dates across the country. His latest release entitled "The Song Garden" was released on January 29, 2021. He also hosts his weekly radio show The Wind Down which is aired on this site and over 20 stations around the world in the USA, UK, Japan, and Spain. General Ticket Information: All seating is reserved for this all ages event. There's an 8 ticket limit. \$25-\$60.



**47<sup>th</sup> Stulberg International String Competition:** Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Oct 18, 2021 - Feb 1, 2022 at 12:00 am. Presented by the Epic Center, 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

The Stulberg Competition is open to students of violin, viola, cello or double bass.

Applicants must be age 19 or under as of January 1, 2022. Proof of date of birth will be required if selected as a semifinalist. Current students of the 2022 Judges are not eligible to apply. Judges are Amit Peled (cello), Simin Ganatra (violin). The third judge is TBA!

Applications are reviewed by a panel of judges who will select twelve

semifinalists and four alternates. Applicants will be notified of results no later than March 15, 2022. Twelve semifinalists will compete in Kalamazoo, Michigan on Friday, May 20 and Saturday, May 21, 2022, before a panel of judges and an audience. Semifinalists will perform a selection from a required list of Bach and a movement(s) from a standard concerto. Six finalists will be chosen. For prize information visit website at <https://www.stulberg.org/competition/competition-details>.



**Drum Circle:** Wednesday, Nov 10, 2021 - Dec 22, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Presented by Rootead Enrichment Center, 505 E. Kalamazoo Avenue, Suite 3, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Rootead is excited to announce the Drum Circle. This is a drop-in event, so come early to reserve your spot! We kick off was Wednesday, November 10, at 7 PM EST and will continue every 2nd and 4th Wednesday through December.

Register here to join us – <https://forms.zohopublic.com/.../bye8Qn...>

For more info please visit <https://www.rootead.org/events>.

## THEATRE



**2021 Nutcracker Virtual Ballet:** Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Dec 11, 2021 - Dec 19, 2021 at 12:00 am. Presented by Ballet Arts Ensemble and Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra and Kalamazoo Children's Chorus at Online/Virtual Space. Ticket Price is \$20.

Are you looking for an affordably priced holiday concert that will please the entire family? Look no further! BAE brings the magic and wonder of Nutcracker 2021 to the virtual stage from midnight Saturday, December 11 to noon Sunday, December 19. This recording features: Music by members of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Brier conducting. Professional dancers from Grand Rapid Ballet and Western Michigan University (WMU) in principal roles.

Students from the WMU Department of Dance. Guest performers from the Kalamazoo Children's Chorus. A local cast of 100 children and adults. A traditional favorite, BAE's full-length production about Clara and her nutcracker doll is noted for its attractive sets, lavish costumes, and the delightful choreography of Artistic Director Cathleen Huling. BAE's past five Nutcracker productions have been performed for sell-out crowds, providing nearly 20,000 people with an opportunity to experience dance and music that filled them with the spirit of the season.



**The Nutcracker Kalamazoo.** Sunday, Saturday, Dec 18 - 19, 2021 at 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm. Presented by Ballet Kalamazoo at Comstock Community Auditorium, 2107 N. 26th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048.

Make your holidays magical by strolling through Kalamazoo's renowned Candy Cane Lane, circa 1865! Inspired by Kalamazoo, Ballet Kalamazoo's Nutcracker follows Hattie's magical journey with her Nutcracker Prince after her family's first holiday party at the Kalamazoo House. The Prince takes Hattie on a wondrous journey through the Magnificent Pines, full of Whitetail Deer. There, the Prince and Hattie encounter Michigan Snowflakes who carry them away to the Land of the Sweets.

When the pair tell the Sugar Plum Fairy of their adventure, the Sugar Plum Fairy is struck by Hattie's bravery and bestows gifts of Kalamazoo's favorite sweets – donuts, Blue Moon ice cream, chocolate truffles, candy canes and lollipops. The enchanted evening begins to wane as Apple Blossom flowers dance around Hattie and her prince. As dawn approaches, the Sugar Plum Fairy tells Hattie she must return home. Hattie does not want to go until she and the Prince dance one final dance together. The Sugar Plum's final gift to Hattie is the story of what will come – the vibrant future of Kalamazoo, along with the key to The Land of the Sweets.

Hattie wakes up next to her Nutcracker. Was her magical night of adventure and friendship only a dream?

## VISUAL ART



**Kirk Newman Art School Faculty Review.** Saturday, Dec 18, 2021 at 11:00 am.

Presented by Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

This biennial exhibition reveals why the Kirk Newman Art School's faculty are among the leading artists in Southwest Michigan. Featuring new directions in the work of more than 40 professional artist-educators, this exciting display of media and techniques gives viewers a glimpse into the artistic prowess of our faculty.

Highlighting a diverse range of talents, expect fine artwork in ceramics, sculpture, painting, jewelry, photography, fibers, and more. Although many of these award-

winning artists exhibit across the region, this is an opportunity to experience their works together, as a team dedicated to sharing the visual arts with everyone inside and beyond the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts' studios. Be the first to see the exhibition! Join us at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts for an opening reception on Friday, December 17, 2021 from 6-7:30pm. Adults \$5 / Students \$2. Face masks are encouraged for the safety of yourself and others. Learn from the accomplished and highly-talented instructors in classes available to everyone on all skill levels! Click "Take a class" below to view the schedule!

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**ARTbreak: ELF (Extremely Low Frequency)**. Tuesday, Dec 14, 2021 at 12:00 pm. Presented by Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Visual artist Nayda Collazo-Llorens will talk about the on-site research behind her projects *ELF (Extremely Low Frequency)* in 2016 and *Interconexiones* in 2021. Collazo-Llorens, who teaches art-related courses at Kalamazoo College, has had her artwork exhibited across the USA, Puerto Rico, and Latin America. Recently, she was Artist-in-Residence at Yellowstone National Park, and she has given talks around the world on her artwork and research, including in Beijing, China, Sandtander, Spain, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

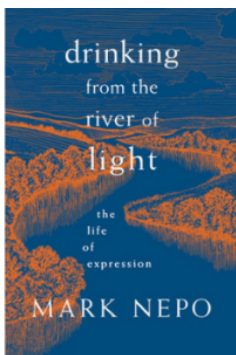


**Annual Frostic School of Art Student Exhibition 2021**: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Apr 23, 2021 - Apr 22, 2022 at 12:00 am Presented by WMU Gwen Frostic School of Art at Online/Virtual Space The Richmond Center for Visual Arts is pleased to announce the 2021 juror for the Frostic School of Art Annual Student Exhibition, Tyanna Buie.

A Chicago, IL and Milwaukee, WI native, Tyanna Buie is Assistant Professor/Section Chair of Printmaking at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, MI. A nationally recognized visual artist, she earned her BA from Western Illinois University and her MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Buie has attended such Artist-in-Residency programs as the Joan Mitchell Center in New Orleans, LA; the Women's Studio Workshop in Rosendale, NY; and the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, VT. She maintains a close connection to the community by hosting printmaking workshops and demonstrations, while participating in Healthy Neighborhood Initiatives through the production of public art created for underserved neighborhoods and communities in Milwaukee, and Madison, WI.

Buie has been a visiting artist lecturer in Tennessee, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Alabama, Wisconsin, Kansas, Missouri, Rhode Island, and Arizona, while continuing to exhibit her works in numerous juried, group and solo exhibitions throughout the country. Her extensive exhibition record includes The Contemporary Invitational Print and Drawing exhibition at the University of Hawaii at Hilo, The Haggerty Museum of Art, The Racine Art Museum, The Red Bull House of Art, N'NAMDI Center for Contemporary Art, the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, The Milwaukee Art Museum, The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, The Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, the Wriston Art Center, the Museum of Wisconsin Art, and the Alice Wilds. Buie earned an emerging artist Mary L. Nohl Fellowship in 2012; the Love of Humanity Award from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, and the prestigious Joan Mitchell Painters & Sculptors Grant in 2015; the 2019 Kresge Artist Fellowship in the Visual Arts; the 2019/2020 Grant Wood Fellowship in Printmaking at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA; and the 2020 Fellowship.art award, a top accelerator award and program funded through gener8tor. Buie's work has been acquired by major institutions and private collections nationally and reviewed on Hyperallergic.com and Essay'd.com.

**BOOKS**



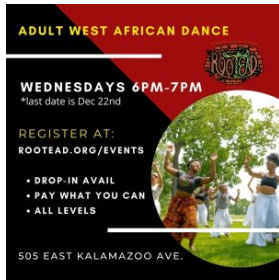
**Book Discussion: Drinking from the River of Light**. Wednesday, Dec 15, 2021 at 2:00 pm. Presented by Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, 314 S. Park Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. From the publisher: Just as no one can live without inhaling and exhaling, no one can live without feeling and expressing. The life of expression is how the heart breathes and how our spirit grows in the life that carries it. Writing, whatever form it takes poetry, story, memoir, or reflection is a personal form of expression, a necessary conversation with the Universe. As meditation is an ancient art that deepens our relationship to how we breathe, writing is an ancient art that deepens our relationship to all that matters. And just as the reward for practicing meditation is not that we'll become great breathers but that we'll become clear vessels of life-force, the reward for practicing a personal form of expression is not that we'll become great writers but that such practice will help us wake

closer to life. RSVP is required for this free book discussion.

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CLASSES



**Adult West African Dance Class:** Wednesday, Nov 10, 2021 - Dec 22, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Presented by Rootead Enrichment Center, 505 E Kalamazoo Avenue, suite 3, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Our amazing community has asked for it, so now we're delivering! Adult West African Dance class is now in session! This is a drop-in class, stop in and join us, every Wednesday from 6-7 pm. The suggested donation is \$10. For more info, visit <https://www.rootead.org/events>.



**Crescendo Music Together Classes:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Nov 29, 2021 - Dec 17, 2021 at 06:00 pm. Presented by Crescendo Academy of Music, 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Ste. 12, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Music Together® is an internationally recognized early childhood music program offering 45 minutes of pure musical fun for you and your child each week. Accredited teaching artists introduce children to the pleasures of making music in a relaxed, playful, non-performance-oriented setting. You'll receive CDs and songbooks tied to each

session's unique experiences for use at home. The national program's e-newsletter, web resources, and online store provide additional support for enriching your child's and your family's musical growth and enjoyment. Each 2021-2022 session focuses on a different song collection:

10-week fall session September 7 – November 12; Fiddle and Alligator collections

3-week interim session – November 29 – December 17; Holiday Hits

10-week winter session January 4 – March 8; Drum and Tree Frog collections

10-week spring session April 5 – June 11; Tambourine and Toucan collections

6-week summer sessions June 14 – July 30 Registration for the fall session opens in August!



**El Concilio Intermediate Spanish Class:** Thursday, Nov 4, 2021 - Feb 10, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Presented by El Concilio, 930 Lake Street, #A, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

This in-person intermediate Spanish class is great for those who have some Spanish language experience and would like to improve their speaking skills.

The class fee is **\$200**. The class sign-up deadline is **October 29, 2021**.

**NOTE:** COVID-19 preclusions will be imposed, so masks must be worn during the class.



**Youth Voices Monologue Workshop Series:** Wednesday, Nov 17, 2021 - Jan 05, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Presented by Read and Write Kalamazoo, 802 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008.

The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre and Read And Write Kalamazoo (RAWK) invite Kalamazoo County youth in grades 4th–12th to join us to write, edit, polish, and perform their own monologues to honor MLK Day.