

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



[Community Voices Ensemble](#)

Thursday

Apr 06, 2023 - Jun 08, 2023 at 04:00 pm

Presented by [Crescendo Academy of Music](#) at [Crescendo Academy of Music](#), 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Ste. 12, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Led by a board-certified music therapist with assistance from community teaching artists, this program provides teens and adults with a variety of intellectual disabilities a unique opportunity to work collaboratively to learn and perform music. This grant-supported program only costs \$30 per session.

FILM & VIDEO



[Kazoo 48-Hour Film Festival Screening](#)

Thursday

Apr 20, 2023 at 06:00 pm

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

What does it take to create an entire film in 48 hours? Find out as we screen films submitted for the Kazoo 48 Hour Film Festival and celebrate the local filmmakers who have lent their talents to this project. Participating filmmaking teams are assigned a random genre, prop, location, character, and line of dialogue, and challenged to create a 1-6 minute film within 48 hours. Join us for the screening and award ceremony for the fourth annual Kazoo 48-Hour Film Festival.



[Joe Gatto's Night of Comedy](#)

Friday

Apr 21, 2023 at 07:00 pm

Tickets range from \$39.75-\$92. For more information visit our website or Miller Auditorium Box Office.

Presented by [Miller Auditorium](#) at [Western Michigan University - Miller Auditorium](#), 2200 Auditorium Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Joe Gatto, a well-known comedian, actor, and producer, is best known for the hit TV shows “Impractical Jokers” and “The Misery Index.” He is one of the founding members of The Tenderloins Comedy Troupe who has toured with a live comedy show to sold-out crowds across the world, including legendary arenas, such as Madison Square Garden in New York and the O2 Arena in London. Joe also is a co-host of the “Two Cool Moms” Podcast and has also appeared on hit podcasts including This Past Weekend with Theo Von, What A Joke with Papa and Fortune and Life is Short with Justin Long. Joe loves spending time with his two children and his ever growing pack of rescue dogs affectionately known as the “Gatto Pups.”

FREE EVENTS

[Kirk Newman Art School Residents – Part III](#)

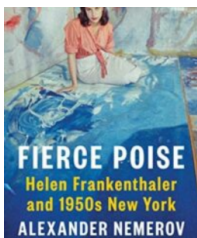
Tuesday

Apr 18, 2023 at 12:00 pm

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

The Kirk Newman Art School Post-Baccalaureate Program is in its seventh year, and more than 50 artists have completed the program. The nine-month residency is designed for aspiring artists who want to grow and strengthen their art practice in a supportive community, with access to professional studio facilities and guidance. At each of these ARTbreaks, KIA guests will hear from the KNAS residents about their experiences and artistic pursuits.

Zan Knecht's sculptures invite people to think and feel their part in the landscape, and to consider how they may move purposefully through the world. Zan especially likes to bring color to grey winter; still, potential energy to dawn; a warm embrace to dusk; and stark definition with an expanse of water or the night sky as backdrop. Zoë Valette's work focuses on textiles and exploring the grey area where other mediums can be combined with and stretched to work as textiles. As a trained fashion designer, she utilizes a variety of media such as paper, plastic, clay, and found items to create garments that exist somewhere between sculptural and wearable. Printmaking resident Hana Holmgren is a graduate student in English at Arcadia University. Most of her focus lies in typesetting and historical methods of printing.



[Book Discussion "Fierce Poise: Helen Frankenthaler and 1950s New York" by Alexander Nemerov](#)

Wednesday

Apr 19, 2023 at 02:00 pm

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

At the dawn of the 1950s, a promising young painter named Helen Frankenthaler, fresh out of college, moved to New York City. By the decade's end, she had succeeded in establishing herself as an important American artist of the postwar period. In the years in between, she made some of the most daring, head-turning paintings of her day and also came into her own as a woman: traveling the world, falling in and out of love, and engaging in an ongoing artistic education. She also experienced anew — and made her mark on — the city in which she had been raised in privilege as the daughter of a judge, even as she left the security of that world to pursue her artistic ambitions.



[Southwest Michigan Makers Network meetup](#)

Sunday

Apr 23, 2023 at 03:00 pm

Presented by [Serendipity Spot](#) and [Kzoo Makers](#) at [Kzoo Makers](#), 1102 E. Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

What is your making interest? Would you like to meet others and be part of an area makers community? Makers of all descriptions welcome!

The Southwest Michigan Makers Network meetup will be held twice a month on Sunday from 3pm-5pm. You will have a chance to introduce yourself and a maker related topic, then mingle and participate in a group activity. Bring a project if you have one you'd like to share.

You are invited to come down and see who is in your network. Connect on Discord <https://discord.gg/mT86YZXm33>

Looking forward to seeing you there!

MUSIC



[Steve Kamerling @ Brick + Brine](#)

Friday

Jan 13, 2023 - May 26, 2023 at 06:00 pm

Free Admission.

Presented by [Arts Council Member Artist](#) at Brick + Brine, 100 W Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Come enjoy an evening at Brick + Brine restaurant. Steve will be performing everything from jazz standards to pop tunes with a twist on an archtop guitar and vocals. Enjoy an appetizer, dinner, or just a drink while listening to many of your favorite tunes.

ONLINE/STREAMING



[Semi-Monthly Member Meetups - April 18, 2023](#)

Tuesday

Apr 18, 2023 at 06:00 pm

Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo Members Only Event.

Presented by [Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo](#) at [Online/Virtual Space](#)

Join Membership Director, Eric Oliphant, in this semi-monthly Member Meetup. If you're looking to connect with fellow Arts Council members, ask questions about the Arts Council and upcoming events/opportunities, or learn about activating your membership, this is for you!

We'll be meeting virtually using the [Lean Coffee format](#). In Lean Coffee, the agenda for the meeting is created by attendees related to whatever topics are dear to you when you arrive. Our lean coffee board can be found [here](#) if you'd like to suggest topics or questions beforehand. Otherwise, just come along.

This free event is for Arts Council Members only. Not a member? [Join Now!](#)



THEATRE

[Night of Rakugo with Katsura Sunshine](#)

Apr 20, 2023 at 06:30 pm

FREE ADMISSION

Presented by Dalton Theatre at Light Fine Arts Building, 1200 Academy St, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Rakugo is a traditional Japanese comedy storytelling art, and it has been passed down from master to apprentice for more than 300 years. Join us for a night full of laughs!



[Chicken & Biscuits](#)

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Apr 20, 2023 - May 07, 2023 at 02:00 pm, 07:30 pm

Special Preview Performance (4/20/23): \$25
Thursdays: \$30-\$34
Friday-Sunday: \$35-\$39

Student Tickets \$15 All Performances

General Rush: \$10 All Performances*

**Begins 1 hour prior to curtain. Must be present at the box office. Subject to seating availability.*

Presented by [Farmers Alley Theatre](#) at [Farmers Alley Theatre](#), 221 Farmers Alley, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

America's dishiest family is coming together for Grandpa's funeral – hopefully without killing each other! Here's the tea: Rivaling sisters, Baneatta and Beverly, are burying their father—but it's the non-stop family drama that might be the death of them. Beverly just wants to show the congregation what she's been "blessed with." Baneatta's husband tries to keep the family peace while preparing the eulogy. Then (get ready...) Baneatta's youngest son brings his very white, very Jewish boyfriend who is maybe, sort of, okay, definitely afraid of Baneatta. Meanwhile, Beverly's daughter couldn't mind her own business if it was on a leash.

But wait! When a family secret is revealed (at the church altar!!), things really go crazy...and even Baneatta can't deny the truth.

This Michigan premiere production is directed by **Dr. Quincy Thomas**. It stars Equity professional actors **Demetria Thomas** and **Darlene Dues** as rivaling sisters Baneatta and Beverly, and also features Farmers Alley favorites including **Von Washington Jr.** (*Clybourne Park*), **Marissa Harrington** (director of *Three Little Birds*, *She Persisted*), **Julianne Howe-Bouwens** (*Doubt*). Rounding out the cast are WMU graduate **Avery Kenyatta** as Kenny, professional actor **Sam Hoffman** as Logan, and Kalamazoo Central senior **Aija Hodges** as La'Trice.



[Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical JV](#)

Apr 21, 2023 - Apr 30, 2023 at 10:00 am, 01:00 pm, 02:00 pm, 04:00 pm, 07:30 pm
Presented by [Kalamazoo Civic Theatre](#) at [The Parish Theatre](#), 426 S. Park St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Performances: Fridays at 7:30pm, Saturdays at 1:00pm & 4:00pm, and Sundays at 2:00pm

ASL Interpretation and Audio Description is available for the Saturday, April 29, 1:00pm performance. All Tickets are \$10. Visit <https://www.kazoocivic.com/polkadots-2022-2023-productions> for tickets. For group ticket sales, please call our box office at 269-343-1313.

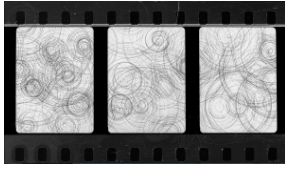
Venue: The Parish Theatre, 405 W Lovell St, Kalamazoo, MI

All seating is general admission.

Synopsis: The story follows 8-year-old Lily Polkadot who just moved to the 'Squares Only' small town of Rockaway. As the first Polkadot in an all Square school, Lily faces an almost impossible task of gaining acceptance from her peers. From daily bullying to segregated drinking fountains, Lily's quest seems hopeless until she meets Sky, a shy Square boy whose curiosity for her unique polkadot skin blooms into an unexpected pal-ship. Inspired by events on the 'The Little Rock 9,' Polkadots serves as a colorful history lesson for children, reminding them that our individual differences make us awesome, not outcasts.

Rating: Recommended for Family Audiences

VISUAL ARTS



[NAOMI VAN NIEKERK: INTERVAL](#)

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Mar 28, 2023 - Apr 21, 2023 at 12:00 pm

Presented by Richmond Center for Visual Arts at [Western Michigan](#)

[University- Richmond Center for Visual Arts, 1903 W. Michigan Avenue,](#)

Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Curated by Adriane Little, Director, Frostic School of Art and Professor of Kinetic Imaging

Postponed from the spring of 2020, Naomi van Niekerk's solo exhibition in the Kerr Gallery will feature prints, objects, and a series of short films animated on a light table with a camera affixed. Titled Interval, the exhibition originates from the idea of archiving and making a residue of ephemeral performances and films created across the past five years. For Niekerk, this reworking of images as etchings or linocuts is an attempt to prolong or evoke the experience of a film or theatre piece.

The printing press, in this instance, also functions as a photographic device, in that it takes impressions at a specific moment, the instant in which a plate has been prepared, inked up, and deemed print ready. The process is similar to capturing a frame after sufficiently altering an image for stop-motion animation, which, by its very nature, slows down motion or makes it stop. Film being both an analog and a digital medium, what is perceived as a few seconds of action in film actually took days to create; fractions of an event were carefully recorded with a camera, move by move. From this perspective, it is as if the filmmaker-animator grasps time and alters it. She can distill instances as well as reverse actions in fluid transitions. Here the artist's process might be interpreted as a game of slowing down and accelerating both motion and time.

Niekerk says, "My interest in slowing down and decomposing movement dates back to my training as a puppeteer. I recall a specific exercise: two participants hold on to a broom with the tip of their index fingers, taking turns in moving and allowing the other to nudge them in a certain direction. It is an intense exercise in practicing stillness while responding to micro-impulses. The animation of the inanimate other through touch is what drew me to animation years later, hence my impulse to create a series of animated short films. To move material and allow oneself to be moved over distance is at the core of stop-motion animation and my artistic practice."

In tandem with her exhibition at the Richmond Center, Niekerk will teach a spring course at the Frostic School of Art in the recently founded Kinetic Imaging area.