

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



[Locating Identity in the Abstract: An Artmaking Workshop with Maya James](#)

Saturday

Feb 25, 2023 at 01:00 pm

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

Following the artists' panel on Joe Overstreet's Boxes, local artist Maya James will lead an artmaking workshop for college students and young professionals. Participants in the workshop will explore art as an expression of identity and beliefs, engaging in writing and artmaking exercises to produce original works that reflect their own senses of self.

Maya James is an artist, writer, educator, and activist whose works center around feminism, anti-racism, collective economics, and her experience with racial hostility as a cross-cultural Black American from Northern Michigan. Her writing has been featured in the New York Times newsletter "Race/Related," USA Today College, and YR Media, and she is a member of For(bes) the Culture. James is the recipient of a 2022 ArtPrize Underdog Award, and her works have been exhibited all over the United States. Seats for this special event are limited, so reserve your ticket today and join us for this exciting opportunity to create and connect at the KIA!

FILM & VIDEO



[Local Filmmaker Showcase](#)

Feb 23, 2023 at 06:30 pm

Free Admission

Presented by [Kalamazoo Film Society](#) at Celebration Cinema Crossroads, 6600 Ring Rd, Portage, MI, Portage, MI 49024

Every film accepted will give filmmakers an opportunity to show their work with professional projections at Celebration Cinema in Portage, MI. After the showcase, filmmakers in attendance will be invited to the front of the auditorium for a Q&A, with prepared questions coming from the host of the evening, then opening up questions from the audience.

MUSIC



[Steve Kamerling @ Brick + Brine](#)

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.



[3 of a Kind @ Hilton Garden Inn](#)

Feb 04, 2023 - Feb 22, 2023 at 07:00 pm

Free Admission.

Presented by [Arts Council Member Artist](#) at Hilton Garden Inn, 303 N Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Join me, Joe Ferguson, and Matt Landon at the Hilton Garden Inn in downtown Kalamazoo for a mix of classic rock, blues and country with artful harmony. Joe is well known in the local blues scene for his prowess on harmonica and vocals. Matt is an accomplished guitarist, and is on the music faculty at WMU and Kalamazoo College. I perform on upright bass with this vocal oriented trio.

The HGI is in the historic Rose Street Market building and features a modern, comfortable space for music, drinks, and dining.



[Romantic Melodies](#)

Tuesday

Feb 21, 2023 at 07:30 pm

Free Admission

Presented by [Kalamazoo Male Chorus](#) at Voyage Church, 6339 Atlantic Ave., Kalamazoo,

MI 49009

Are you looking for a way to keep the romance alive a week after Valentine’s Day? Along with our special guests, the WMU male chorus Amphion, the Kalamazoo Male Chorus will perform a free concert of love songs and romantic ballads that will have you feeling the love all over again. Join us as we celebrate the beauty of song and the power of brotherhood. You’ll be moved by our passion and energy as we sing our hearts out.

- What: Romantic Melodies Concert
- When: Tuesday, February 21, 7:30 PM
- Where: Voyage Church, 6339 Atlantic Ave.

This concert is the perfect way to keep the Valentine’s Day spirit alive and to experience the powerful bond of men singing together. Don’t miss this unforgettable evening of music and camaraderie. See you there!



[Tab Benoit WSG JD Simo](#)

Feb 23, 2023 at 08:00 pm

General Ticket Information:

All seating is reserved for this all-ages event. There’s an 8-ticket limit.

\$29-\$59

Student ticket prices available

Presented by [Kalamazoo State Theatre](#) at [Kalamazoo State Theatre](#), 404 S. Burdick, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Kalamazoo State Theatre

What To Know Before Attending The Show

All bags and purses must be under 8" x 5" x 2" – [Click for more details](#)

Doors: 7:00pm | Show: 8:00pm

Buy Tickets [HERE](#)

GRAMMY-nominated singer, songwriter, and guitarist Tab Benoit returns to the historic **Kalamazoo State Theatre** with special guest **JD Simo** February 23, 2023!

About Tab Benoit: Tab Benoit is a GRAMMY-nominated singer, songwriter, and guitarist who has built a remarkable 30+ year career on the foundation of his gritty and soulful Delta swamp blues and acquiring a devoted legion of fans along the way, as well as 5 Blues Music Awards, including BB King Entertainer of the Year (twice) and an induction into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame. Tab has recorded and/or performed with Junior Wells, George Porter Jr, Dr. John, Willie Nelson, Big Chief Monk, Billy Joe Shaver, James Cotton, Kim Wilson, Ivan Neville, and Alvin Youngblood to name a few.

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About JD Simo: JD Simo is an American guitarist, singer-songwriter, producer, solo artist and former member of the rock band SIMO. He has worked with the likes of Jack White, Tommy Emmanuel, Luther Dickinson, Dave Cobb, Blackberry Smoke, and has served as a member of Grateful Dead founder Phil Lesh' "Phil & Friends." His most unique, original and rawest effort yet, *Mind Control*, was released in November 2021.

General Ticket Information:

All seating is reserved for this all-ages event. There's an 8-ticket limit.

\$29-\$59

Student ticket prices available

BUY TICKETS [HERE](#)

Buy Skip The Line Tickets [HERE](#)

RSVP On Facebook [HERE](#)

Skip the line Ticket Information:

Why wait in the elements when you can skip the line?! This is a separate ticket that will grant you expedited entry into the venue. Skip The Line entry is located near the main entrance of the building. Look for VIP / Skip The Line signage or ask a staff member. Present your Skip The Line pass along with your event ticket for expedited entry and to avoid public lines. THIS IS NOT AN EVENT TICKET.

Security Information:

All patrons are subject to search, pat down, and wandung. The following items are not allowed in the venue: guns, knives, lasers, tasers, mace, glass items, cameras, selfie sticks, outside food or beverage, no bags over the dimensions of 8 inches wide by 5 inches tall with a width of 2 inches, and other items that may challenge public safety. You can view our full list by visiting our [frequently asked questions here](#)



[Jurassic Park In Concert](#)

Friday

Feb 24, 2023 at 07:00 pm

Tickets range from \$26-68

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

Welcome...to Jurassic Park. Featuring visually stunning imagery and groundbreaking special effects, the action-packed adventure of *Jurassic Park* pits man against prehistoric predators in the ultimate battle for survival. Experience it now, projected in HD with a full symphony orchestra performing John Williams' iconic score live to picture.

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[Fascinating Rhythm with Megan Dooley](#)

Saturday

Feb 25, 2023 at 07:30 pm

FREE

Presented by [Kalamazoo Concert Band](#) at [Chenery Auditorium](#), 714 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Rhythm surrounds us; from nature to the concert hall. Join us in February as we explore both worlds. Assisting us will be vocalist extraordinaire, Megan Dooley. You may remember Megan sang several WW II era songs in our *The Homefront* concert in 2020. If you were there, you'll remember she brought down the house. We consider this an encore performance and one you won't want to miss. But don't take our word for it. Dubbed "The First Lady" of the Kalamazoo music scene by *Revue Magazine* in October 2013, "Megan Dooley is a Michigan performer that is not to be missed."



[Voctave: The Corner of Broadway and Main Street](#)

Sunday

Feb 26, 2023 at 03:00 pm

Tickets range from \$30-\$40 for more ticket information please visit our website or the Miller Auditorium box office.

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

A cappella sensation Voctave brings incredible harmonies to favorites from the Disney screen to the Broadway stage!

Voctave has had over 150 million social media views of their videos, and their latest album, *The Spirit of the Season, Deluxe Edition*, reached No. 6 on the Billboard charts. Their previous album, *The Corner of Broadway & Main Street Vol. 2*, debuted at number 3 on the iTunes charts. Formed in 2015 by producer and arranger Jamey Ray, the voices that bring their arrangements to life represent a wealth of diverse backgrounds and musical experiences. Hailing from Central Florida, the eleven members of Voctave have performed across the globe and appear on countless recordings. The group has performed with GRAMMY, Dove and American Music Award recipients including Sandi Patty, Pentatonix's Kirstin

Maldonado, Mark Lowry, David Phelps, and Jody McBrayer. Voctave's eight albums are digitally available on all platforms.

ONLINE/STREAMING



[Reifying Black Geographies: The Tropical Performances of Maya Angelou and Josephine Baker](#)

Tuesday

Feb 21, 2023 at 12:00 pm

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

Samantha A. Noël is an Associate Professor of Art History and the Hawkins Ferry Endowed Chair in Modern and Contemporary Art at Wayne State University. Her research centers on the history of art, visual culture, and performance of the Black Diaspora.

Noël's 2021 book, *Tropical Aesthetics of Black Modernism*, investigates how Caribbean and American modern artists responded to colonial and hegemonic regimes through visual and performative tropicalist representation. In this virtual ARTbreak, Dr. Noël will discuss the Black Atlantic performances of cultural icons and pioneering artists Josephine Baker and Maya Angelou. Dr. Noël envisions their performances as a type of corporeal expression that is liberating, incisive, and even exceptional as a strategy of space-making, using art to name and reclaim spaces of Black sovereignty.

THEATRE



[Conversations in the Gallery](#)

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Feb 17, 2023 - Feb 26, 2023 at 01:00 pm, 04:00 pm, 07:30 pm

General Admission tickets are \$20, Senior tickets are \$18, Student tickets are \$10, and WMU Student tickets are \$6. Student and WMU Student tickets require the patron to bring their student ID when they check in at the performance.

The box office will be closed for regular hours during the summer, but we will be checking messages, email, and will be available by appointment. Passes can be easily purchased online, or can be purchased by calling the box office and leaving a message. Someone will return your message as soon as they are able.

Contact: (269) 387-6222

Presented by [WMU University Theatre](#) at [Western Michigan University - Gilmore Theatre Complex](#), 1921 W. Michigan Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Conversations in the Gallery is a unique and immersive theatrical experience that will be presented at the Richmond Center for Visual Arts. Perhaps the people next to you are actors, perhaps just guests. Their conversation is intriguing – perhaps related to the conversation you overheard in another part of the gallery? Do these people know each other? Can you find another piece to this puzzle? Enjoy the art, listen in, meet an array of characters and hear their stories as you move throughout the gallery.



[The Mountaintop by Katori Hall & Directed by Quincy Thomas](#)

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Feb 23, 2023 - Feb 26, 2023 at 02:00 pm, 07:30 pm

\$25 for Adults

\$5 for Children 12 and under

\$20 for Seniors(65+)

\$15 for Non-K students

Free admission for K students, staff/faculty, and theatre alumni(Must show ID)

Tickets are now available online on the website and will also be available to purchase at the door

Presented by [Festival Playhouse of Kalamazoo College](#) at [Kalamazoo College - Nelda K. Balch Playhouse](#), 1200 Academy Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

A gripping reimagining of events the night before the assassination of the civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. On April 3, 1968, after delivering one of his most memorable speeches, an exhausted Dr. King retires to his room at the Lorraine Motel while a storm rages outside. When a mysterious stranger arrives with some surprising news, King is forced to confront his destiny and his legacy to his people.

Proof of vaccination and proper wearing of a mask are required for admittance.



Something Rotten!

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Feb 24, 2023 - Feb 26, 2023 at 02:00 pm, 07:00 pm

Please note that Something Rotten is rated PG-13 and contains adult themes.

Adult tickets 15.00

Senior/Students 12.00

Presented by [Center Stage Theatre](#) at [Comstock Community Auditorium](#), 2107 N. 26th Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Performance Dates: February 24 – February 26, 2023 (Friday thru Sunday)

Sensory Friendly: Saturday, February 25 at 2:00pm

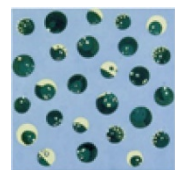
ASL Interpreted: Saturday, February 25 at 7:00pm

Tickets are available for purchase online at [kzoocst.com](#).

Synopsis: Two brothers set out to write the world's first musical in this hilarious mash-up of sixteenth-century Shakespeare and twenty-first-century Broadway.

Set in the 1590s, brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star known as "The Bard." When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. But amidst the scandalous excitement of opening night, the Bottom Brothers realize that reaching the top means being true to thine own self, and all that jazz.

VISUAL ARTS



ALL TOGETHER NOW: CONTEMPORARY PRINTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY ART COLLECTION

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Jan 17, 2023 - Feb 25, 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

Co-organized by Indra K. Lācis, PhD, Director of Exhibitions, and Tanya Bakija, MFA, Coordinator of Exhibitions, and Exhibitions Staff, with initial support from Nichole Maury, Professor of Art, Frostic School of Art

Rooted in the belief that learning directly from art objects remains absolutely key, the main purpose of the print collection is to enrich the educational experience of Frostic School of Art students, faculty, and

staff. A specialized sub-collection within the larger University Art Collection, the print collection was initiated in 1969 by Professor Emeritus Curtis Rhodes and today includes more than 800 works on paper or multiples. Originally housed in the School of Art's previous home, Sangren Hall, the Collection relocated to the then newly built Richmond Center for Visual Arts in 2007. Professor of Art Nichole Maury, Curator of the print collection, assumed oversight of the print collection in the early 2000s and worked with graduate student Patrick Trimbath to rehouse and reorganize it. Developed to demonstrate an incredibly wide-ranging history of printmaking, including diverse processes, techniques, and aesthetics, the print collection continues to serve as a flexible and ever-evolving teaching device. Jumpstarted by a decade of purchases selected from biennial juried exhibitions hosted by WMU's Department of Art (now the Frostic School of Art) between 1964 and 1974, the print collection continued to grow in subsequent decades through both purchases and generous donations. An artist residency program through which artists spent time on campus and interacted with students led to major acquisitions. The generosity and connectedness of master printer Mike Sims, WMU alumnus (BS, 1968) and owner and master printer of the Lawrence Lithography Workshop in Kansas City, MO, also endowed the collection with great depth; he has donated major works to the collection and made accessible for collecting dozens of works in the collection that WMU might not have otherwise had an opportunity to purchase. And recently, in 2013, Founding Director of Exhibitions Don Desmett facilitated an enormous gift of New York City's EXIT art print portfolios, which contributed a deeply relevant contemporary sensibility spanning three decades of artists whose work challenged established notions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and equality. Featuring nearly 100 prints from the University Art Collection, this exhibition includes an extensive and assorted array of post-modern and contemporary artists, including Joseph Albers, Laylah Ali, Terry Allen, Rina Banaerjee, Chakaia Booker, Jim Dine, Leon Golub, Ellsworth Kelly, Grandma (Elizabeth) Layton, Sol Lewitt, Lorna Marsh, Robyn O'Neil, Catherine Opie, Tony Oursler, Richard Hamilton, Robert Rauschenberg, Michael Rovner, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Do Ho Suh, Roger Shimomura, and Cy Twombly, among dozens of other notable artists.



[GINGER OWEN-MURAKAMI GIRL'S OWN GUIDE](#)

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Jan 17, 2023 - Feb 25, 2023 at 12:00 pm

Presented by Richmond Center for Visual Art at [Western Michigan University- Richmond Center for Visual Arts](#), 1903 W. Michigan Avenue, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Featuring a new body of work by Ginger Owen-Murakami, *Girl's Own Guide* features wet-plate collodion images inspired by *The Girl's Own Book* (published 1834) by Lydia Maria Child. An American abolitionist, women's rights activist, opponent of American expansionism, activist for the rights of indigenous people, novelist, and journalist, Lydia Maria Child ranks as America's first published abolitionist writer. *The Girl's Own Book* has been reprinted many times over and evidences the generational passing of information. In particular, the book characterizes 19th-century New England childhood and the society that supported it. Owen-Murakami says, "In this book, I found many entertaining activities that were taught to me as a child by the women who raised me. This work amalgamates themes of honoring history, familial nostalgia, and how we educate and socialize children through toys, games, and playtime."

This work is supported by a WMU Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award.



[Dare to Be Aware - Our World Needs You](#)

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Feb 03, 2023 - Feb 28, 2023 at 08:00 am, 07:00 pm

Presented by [Arts Council Member Artist](#) at [James C. Westin Gallery at the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo](#), 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Exhibition by Jeanne Fields

Opening Night Reception is open to the public on Friday, February 3, 2023, from 7 -9 pm



[Locating Identity in the Abstract: A Panel Conversation](#)

Thursday

Feb 23, 2023 at 06:00 pm

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

“Celebrated artists from across the country, including Nanette Carter, Adia Millett, and Mary Anne Rose (widow of late abstractionist Herbert Gentry), will join Kalamazoo-based artist and activist Maya James for a conversation about the ways in which abstraction can be used to break down barriers of race and gender. Sharing personal stories and examples from their careers, these artists will demonstrate how abstract art can be a powerful form of activism. Together the artists will delve into issues of identity, mutual understanding, and the ability of art and artists to affect change in the world

This panel conversation is inspired by the work of Joe Overstreet, including his piece Boxes, which is on extended view at the KIA until June 11. Many thanks to Art Bridges for making this panel conversation, and the accompanying art workshop (below) possible.