

Rotary Arts Minute for 1/8/2024 Information provided by the



CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



[Crescendo Fiddlers - Fiddle Club](#)

Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 1:00 pm

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

Director [Joanna Steinhauer](#) teaches folk fiddle music, which includes fiddle tunes from the folk music traditions of New England, Appalachia, Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Denmark, and China. In addition to weekly classes, the Crescendo Fiddlers perform throughout the summer at regional folk music festivals, community events, and farmers' markets. Two to three years of playing experience is usually required to handle our repertoire.

FREE EVENTS



[Washington Ave Arts+Culture Crawl \(WAACC\) January 13](#)

January 13, 2024 at 12:00 pm

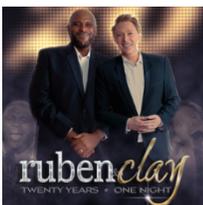
Presented by [Edison Neighborhood Association](#) at Edison Neighborhood, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Hosted by the Edison Neighborhood Association (ENA) and its partners, this project aligns with the ENA's mission to enhance the quality of life for its residents through place-making efforts involving arts, culture, and the environment. Audiences and artists alike are able to showcase and express themselves through this free, community-focused, family-friendly event. People of all backgrounds and skills are encouraged to participate. This includes underground, amateur, and under-represented artists in all mediums with a focus on welcoming culturally diverse and historically excluded populations such as black, indigenous, people of color and the queer community. Questions? email WAACC Program Director Eana Agopian: eana@edisonneighborhood.com

Participating partners and venues include:

Move With Joy Dance School
Fire Historical & Cultural Arts Collective
812 Gallery
SugarBowl Bar & Grille
Open-Air Space at WashCam Junction
Jerico Creative Community
Clover Room
ModeShift

MUSIC



[Ruben Studdard & Clay Aiken Twenty | The Tour](#)

Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7:30 pm

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

Ruben & Clay are thrilled to reunite twenty years after captivating audiences during their historic run on the second season of Fox's American Idol in 2003. Both plucked from the relative obscurity of their hometowns in the South, the unlikely pair quickly became audience favorites instrumental in helping

propel Idol to the top of the Nielsen ratings, nearly tripling the viewership of the previous season, and securing its place as one of the most consequential TV series in American history. Over 38 million viewers tuned in to hear the results of more than 124 million votes cast during their finale making it the most watched Idol episode in history and the highest rated regularly scheduled, live, non-sporting television episode of the 21st century. Combined they have recorded twelve albums, sold more than eight million albums worldwide, toured the country 14 times, starred together on Broadway, won four Billboard Music Awards, an American Music Award, and have been nominated for two Grammys.

VISUAL ARTS



[Kirk Newman Exhibit and Sale](#)

Tuesday – Friday until January 26, 2024 from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Presented by Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo at Westin Gallery, 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

KIRK NEWMAN EXHIBIT + ART SALE

A special Kirk Newman exhibit in the Westin Gallery at the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo offices will be on display through the end of January 2024. All pieces in the exhibit are available for sale – there are maquettes and prints available for purchase so you can own a little piece of Kalamazoo art history! The gallery is open Tuesdays – Fridays from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm.

ABOUT KIRK NEWMAN:

Newman arrived in Kalamazoo in 1949 to begin work at the KIA as part of the University of Michigan's extension program. Believing that community art programs could be as stimulating and rewarding as those offered at the college level, he recruited a dedicated group of professionals to help develop the art school. As an artist, Kirk Newman was an astute observer of the human condition and was fascinated by the expressive possibilities of the human figure. In 1963, at a time when abstraction dominated the art world, he began creating small sculptures of anonymous businessmen. Cast in bronze, the figures took on an unexpected timelessness yet embodied the complexities of the modern world. While their suits identified them as figures of power and authority, their postures revealed vulnerability.

Later, as Newman embraced the whimsical and satirical, the figures suggested the inflated egos and social pretensions of their subjects. By the 1980s his sculptures became dramatically flattened and shadow-like, to better convey the fast pace of contemporary life.

Newman's reputation was created largely from 2 bodies of work: small bronze figures and large public pieces presenting a more traditional approach to the figure, which can be found in Toronto, Hong Kong, and throughout Michigan. Examples can be found outside the KIA (People, 1974) and nearby in Bronson Park (When Mercy and Justice Prevail, 1976, detail shown below). For a list of the KIA holdings of Newman artworks, see kiarts.org.