

Rotary Arts Minute for 6/17/2024 Information provided by the CLASSES & WORKSHOPS



[Kids Improv Summer Camps ★ AGE 5-7 ★](#)

Monday, Jun 17 - Friday, June 21, 2024 at 9:00 am-12 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#),
315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Campers will have fun in these improv theater camps while building confidence and leadership skills. They will play improv games, be creative, and have fun creating scenes on the spot. All camps are taught by members of the improv team, Crawlspace Eviction.

Age: 5-7

Dates: June 17-21

Time: 9am-noon

Class meets once a day for 5 days. No improv experience is necessary to enter the program.

General Camp Info:

Each camp lasts 5 days, 3 hours per day

Max participants per camp: 15

Location:

Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in the historic First Baptist Church, 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Cost: \$175 (includes a t-shirt for campers!)

What's included:

3 hours of improv fun for 5 straight days.



[Kids Improv Summer Camps ★ AGE 8-10 ★](#)

Monday, Jun 17 - Friday, June 21, 2024 at 1:00-4:00 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#),
315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Campers will have fun in these improv theater camps while building confidence and leadership skills. They will play improv games, be creative, and have fun creating scenes on the spot. All camps are taught by members of the improv team, Crawlspace Eviction.

Age: 8-10

Dates: June 17-21

Time: 1:00-4:00pm

Class meets once a day for 5 days. No improv experience is necessary to enter the program.

General Camp Info:

Each camp lasts 5 days, 3 hours per day

Max participants per camp: 15

Location:

Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in the historic First Baptist Church, 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Cost: \$175 (includes a t-shirt for campers!)

What's included:

3 hours of improv fun for 5 straight days.

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[Epic Broadway! Musical Theater Camp](#)

Monday – Friday, June 17, 2024 - June 21, 2024

\$420 (Register and pay by May 1 for an Early Bird discount of \$25)

Payment plans and need-based financial aid available.

Presented by [Crescendo Academy of Music](#) and [Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers](#) at 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Ste. 12, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Work with Teaching Artists who have spent decades teaching and coaching singers in vocal technique and performance specifically for the musical stage.

This unique experience will include:

Daily Voice Lessons working on a Musical Theater solo/duet

Learning the basics of Character Development and Staging

Dance class with a member of the Wellspring Dance professional company

Meeting other campers who have the same passion for musical theater

A Concert Performance on Friday evening

CLASS SESSION:

Two one-week sessions will be offered in 2024:

Week 1: June 17 – June 21: Millennium Musicals, featuring musicals that premiered between 2000 and 2010

Week 2: June 24 – June 28: Disney Musicals

CLASS DAYS AND TIMES:

Camp activities will take place between **9 am and 4 pm** each day. Prior to the start of the week, each camper will choose, in collaboration with our vocal teaching artists, a musical theater song that fits the camp's theme: *Millennium Musicals* or *Disney*. Monday's schedule will start with an Orientation Session. The week will culminate in a group Concert for sharing with family and friends that will begin at 7 PM on Friday.

CLASS FEES:

\$420 (Register and pay by May 1 for an Early Bird discount of \$25)

Payment plans available.



[Crescendo Fiddlers](#)

Monday, June 17, 2024 - August 12, 2024 at 6:00 pm

CLASS FEES:

\$115 for beginners class; \$175 for advanced class

Need-based financial aid is available

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

Director [Joanna Steinhäuser](#) teaches folk fiddle music from various cultures, including Celtic, American, Canadian, Scandinavian, and Chinese styles. In addition to weekly classes, the Crescendo Fiddlers perform throughout the summer at regional folk music festivals, community events, and farmers' markets. Membership is open to violin, viola, and cello players of all ages who have played for at least three years for Advanced Fiddlers, or around two years for Beginning Fiddlers.

CLASS SESSION:

2024 Crescendo Fiddlers meet from June 17 – August 12

CLASS DAYS AND TIMES:

Mondays from 6:00 pm – 6:30 pm for beginning fiddlers

Mondays from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm for advanced fiddlers

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[Training for Orchestra](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 – July 30, 2024 at 4:30 pm

\$150 for the 7-week class; need-based financial aid available

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

Led by [Audrey Lipsey](#), this class is for students with one to two years of experience playing a stringed instrument. In this introductory ensemble, students will learn basic orchestral techniques to help prepare them for school orchestra in the fall and advanced ensembles.

CLASS DAYS AND TIMES:

Tuesdays, June 18 – July 30

4:30 – 6:00 pm

CLASS FEES:

\$150 for the 7-week class



[Beyond the Basics: Using Photoshop to Add Creativity and Style to Your Photography](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 - July 2, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Presented by Kristian Walker Photography at Oshtemo Community Center, 6407 Parkview Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Elevate your editing skills and unleash your artistic vision in this immersive three-session class designed for intermediate photographers. Delve deeper into Photoshop's advanced tools and techniques, learning how to infuse your images with creativity and distinctive style. From mastering layers and masks to exploring color grading and other effects, empower yourself to transform ordinary photos into extraordinary works of art. Embark on a journey of discovery and watch your photography soar to new heights!

FREE EVENTS



[Bonnie Jo Campbell Exhibit @ Kalamazoo Valley Museum](#)

January 20, 2024 - June 30, 2024

Presented by [Kalamazoo Valley Museum](#), 230 North Rose Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49003

Award-winning local author Bonnie Jo Campbell brings her history, as well as many personal items from her writing world, to the Kalamazoo Valley Museum in a mini-exhibit that showcases "What It Means to Be a Hometown Writer." Bonnie was born in 1962 in Comstock, Michigan, and grew up on a small farm with her mother, Susanna, and four siblings (and neighbors and cousins) in a house her grandfather Herlihy built in the shape of an H.

Her first collection of stories, *Women & Other Animals*, won the Grace Paley Prize in 1999, and her book *Q Road* was a Barnes & Noble Best New Writers selection. Her next novel, *American Salvage*, was a National Book Award Finalist and won a National Book Critics Circle award. *Once Upon a River*, released in 2011, was a national bestseller now published in nine languages and has been adapted to film. Her new novel, *The Waters*, takes place in a Southwest Michigan swamp and was chosen for Oprah's list of Most Anticipated Books of 2024, the Saturday Evening Post Ten Reads for the New Year, and the Apple Books List.

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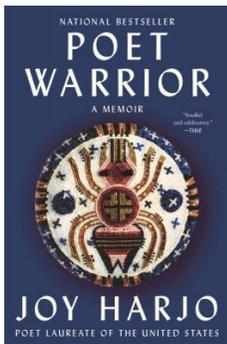
[ArtBreak: West Michigan Area Show Artist Highlight](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 12:00 pm

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

During select ARTbreaks throughout the summer, artists featured in the 2024 West Michigan Area Show will deliver talks on their featured pieces and on their larger bodies of work, their artistic processes, and their points of inspiration. With works selected from more than 300 submitted entries, the West Michigan Area Show highlights the work of talented regional artists working in a wide range of artistic media, including painting, photography, ceramics, mosaics, sculpture, and much more. Visit our events calendar online for updates on featured speakers.

Be sure to stop by the West Michigan Area Show before June 24 to cast your vote for the People's Choice Award! The winner of this award, sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Kalamazoo, will be announced during Art Hop on Friday, July 12, at 6:00 pm.



[Book Discussion: Poet Warrior](#)

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Admission is free, but preregistration is encouraged!

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

Joy Harjo, the first Native American to be named the United States Poet Laureate, chronicles a sweeping view of ancestry, storytelling, and memory told through her signature lyrical poetry and prose. Harjo cites the teachers that forced her to fight battles throughout her life and surrounds them with compassion and understanding, sometimes facing horrendous realities but continuing to persevere.



**Lunchtime
Live!** In Bronson Park

[Lunchtime Live! - Abbigale Rose](#)

Friday, June 21, 2024 at 11:30 am

Presented by [City of Kalamazoo Parks & Recreation](#) at [Bronson Park](#), 200 W South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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.



[Southwest Michigan Makers Network meetup](#)

Sunday, June 23, 2024 at 3:00 pm

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

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

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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



[Gilmore Car Museum Wednesday Night Cruise-Ins](#)

Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 5:00 pm

General:

With the exception of the Blue Moon Diner, the Grill, and the Carriage House, all other Museum buildings are CLOSED during Cruise-Ins. If inclement weather is predicted, the Cruise-In will still take place, but scheduled cruise time will be shortened to 7pm.

Type of Cars:

Limited to show field cars only (classics, muscle, antique, special interest, hot rods, etc).

Parking:

Within the museum grounds there will be designated areas for parking. Each lot will be filled on a "first here" basis – no reserved or special parking.

Food Service:

The Grill will be open – serving hot dogs, hamburgers, and chips.

George & Sally's Blue Moon Diner – serving regular diner menu items.

The Carriage House – serving beer, wine, and spirits.

If inclement weather is predicted, the Grill will NOT be open. Regular menu items will be available in the Diner from 5 – 7pm.

June 19 – [Hi-Views](#) - Rockabilly

Presented by [Gilmore Car Museum](#) 6865 Hickory Road, Hickory Corners, MI 49060

Gilmore Car Museum Wednesday Night Cruise-Ins | Presented by: [DeNooyer Chevrolet and Your West Michigan Chevy Dealers](#), and supported by [GR Auto Gallery](#) at the Gilmore Car Museum have become an annual summer tradition!

It is **FREE** to bring your collector car on the grounds during Cruise-In and the event is open to the public. On good weather nights, the fun **starts at 5 pm and runs until 8 pm**, with both George & Sally's authentic 1941 Blue Moon Diner and The Grill serving hot dogs, hamburgers, and creamy old-fashioned custard throughout the evening. With live music providing the soundtrack, these are evenings you and your family won't forget! So, plan to bring your ride, snap a photo in front of the 1930s Shell station, cruise our amazing grounds, and enjoy an evening of great wheels and memories.

General:

With the exception of the Blue Moon Diner, the Grill, and the Carriage House, all other Museum buildings are CLOSED during Cruise-Ins. If inclement weather is predicted, the Cruise-In will still take place, but scheduled cruise time will be shortened to 7pm.

Type of Cars:

Limited to show field cars only (classics, muscle, antique, special interest, hot rods, etc).

Parking:

Within the museum grounds there will be designated areas for parking. Each lot will be filled on a "first here" basis – no reserved or special parking.

Food Service:

The Grill will be open – serving hot dogs, hamburgers, and chips.

George & Sally's Blue Moon Diner – serving regular diner menu items.

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The Carriage House – serving beer, wine, and spirits.

If inclement weather is predicted, the Grill will NOT be open. Regular menu items will be available in the Diner from 5 – 7pm.



[Keb' Mo'](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 7:30 pm

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

Doors: 6:30PM | Show: 7:30PM

Kalamazoo State Theatre is thrilled to announce that the legendary Keb' Mo', a master of American roots music, will grace its stage on June 18, 2024. Celebrated for his profound blend of blues, Americana, and soul, Keb' Mo' brings his unique sound and five-decade-spanning repertoire to the historic venue. This one-night-only performance promises to be an unforgettable experience, showcasing the Grammy Award-winning artist's rich musical legacy. Fans can secure their chance to witness this musical icon live, as tickets go on sale Friday, February 9, at 10 AM EST. Don't miss the opportunity to be part of an evening filled with heartfelt melodies and captivating storytelling by one of the true greats in the music world.

THEATRE



[The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee](#)

Thursday-Sunday, June 12, 2024 - June 23, 2024 at 02:00 pm or 07:30 pm

Presented by [Farmers Alley Theatre](#) at the [Festival Playhouse of Kalamazoo College](#), 129 Thompson St, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Responding to audience demand, Farmers Alley Theatre moves its summer 2024 productions to the 280 seat Festival Playhouse on the campus of Kalamazoo College, starting with the hilarious and absurd Tony-award winning musical sensation, ***The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!*** In ***The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*** an eclectic group of six mid-pubescents vie for the spelling championship of a lifetime while candidly disclosing hilarious and touching stories from their home lives. The tweens spell their way through a series of (potentially made-up) words, hoping never to hear the soul-crushing, pout-inducing, life un-affirming “ding” of the bell that signals a spelling mistake. Six spellers enter; but only one will leave a champion! (At least the losers get a goodbye song and a juice box.) It's a joyful night of comedy and quirk that celebrates the pursuit of victory and the gift of being true to oneself. At the core of the show are the six young spellers, brilliantly performed by talented adults all channeling their inner tween. Farmers Alley Theatre is thrilled to welcome three returning cast members from its 2023 production of *Rent*, including **Mariangeli Collado** (Mimi Marquez) as Olive Ostrovsky, **Teddy Huff** as Chip Tolentino, and **Alexis Aponte** as Marcy Park. Joining them are **Angela Calleja** as Schwartzky, Jeff Meyer as **Leaf Coneybear**, and Charlie Turner as **William Barfée**. The cast also includes Farmers Alley Theatre Founder **Denene Mulay Koch** (just seen in *Sondheim on Sondheim*) as spelling bee moderator Rona Lisa Peretti, **Aaron Pottenger** (also just in *Sondheim on Sondheim*) as Comfort Counselor Mitch Mahoney, and **Michael P. Martin** as Vice Principal Douglas Panch. This zany and heartfelt musical is directed by Farmers Alley Theatre founder and Executive Director **Rob Weiner**, who returns to directing here for the first time since 2019's hysterical *Avenue Q*. He also directed the theatre's memorable productions of *The Toxic Avenger* and [title of show].

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A fast-paced, wildly funny and touching musical with a truly fresh and vibrant score, this is one bee you won't forget! *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* runs at the Festival Playhouse for just two weeks from June 12 to June 23, 2024. [More information about this venue can be found here.](#)

The show contains mild adult language and innuendos. Recommended for audiences 13 and up.



[CRAWLSPACE EVICTION](#)

Friday- Saturday, June 21-22, 2024 at 07:30 pm

Presented by [Crawlspace Comedy Theatre in Historic First Baptist Church Building](#), 315 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Since 2003, Crawlspace Eviction has been delivering laughs, chortles and guffaws to Kalamazoo. See what happens when what's next is ANYBODY's guess? Get ready for a face-melting good time!

Show Date: June 21

Show Time: 7:30-9p

Tickets: \$15

Doors Open: 6:30p

VISUAL ARTS



[2024 West Michigan Area Show](#)

May 3, 2024 - August 18, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

The work of West Michigan's talented artistic community is on view during the annual West Michigan Area Show. Opening Friday, May 3, this crowd-pleasing annual juried exhibition was carefully curated from more than 300 submitted entries, ranging from paintings, prints, and photos to mosaics, ceramics, jewelry, sculpture, and mixed-media works. This year's juror is Jessica Silverman, founder of Jessica Silverman Gallery in San Francisco. The eponymous gallery was founded in 2008 after Silverman completed an MA in Curatorial Practice at the California College of the Arts, after receiving her BA from Otis College. The gallery represents artists who make museum-worthy art at all stages of their careers.

Awards totaling more than \$5,000, including the \$1,000 Helen Sheridan Memorial Grand Prize, are awarded in recognition of outstanding achievement in the varying media represented in this highly anticipated exhibition. Visit the exhibition before June 24 to vote for the People's Choice Award, which is sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo. The People's Choice Award winner will be announced at Art Hop on Friday, July 12 at 6:00pm. As part of the KIA's 100th year, more than three decades of Purchase Prize winners will be on view during the 2024 West Michigan Area Show.



[Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass](#)

May 18, 2024 - August 25, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

To honor of our 100th Anniversary and continue our commitment to presenting the myriad of voices that make up the American experience, the KIA is pleased to present Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass. Clearly Indigenous is a groundbreaking exhibition giving broader and overdue recognition to a wide range of contemporary Native American and

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Indigenous, Pacific-Rim artists working in glass. The importance, rarity, and excellence of this milestone event are not to be missed. Clearly Indigenous includes nearly 100 glassworks created by twenty-nine Native American artists, four Pacific Rim artists from New Zealand and Australia, along with selections from leading glass artist Dale Chihuly. Chihuly was a part of a collaboration between the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) which resulted in establishing a glass program and a hot shop for the IAIA. This stunning exhibition embodies the intellectual content of Native traditions, newly illuminated by the unique properties that can only be achieved by working with glass. Whether reinterpreting traditional stories and designs or expressing contemporary issues affecting Indigenous societies, Indigenous artists have created content-laden bodies of work via the medium of glass. Clearly Indigenous demonstrates the generations of Indigenous artists who have and continue to investigate the expressive properties of glassmaking. Among the artists included in this seminal exhibition are Larry Ahvakana (Inupiat), Dan Friday (Lummi), Carol Lujan (Diné), Robert “Spooner” Marcus (Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo), Lillian Pitt (Warm Springs, Wasco, Yakama), and Preston Singletary (Tlingit). Don’t miss this exciting exhibition on view throughout the summer at the KIA! Clearly Indigenous: Native Visions Reimagined in Glass was originated by The Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe, New Mexico. The traveling exhibit was curated by Dr. Letitia Chambers, and is toured by International Arts & Artists.



[The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light Collection](#)

May 25, 2024 – September 1, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light

Collection showcases a diverse selection of Chinese and Japanese artworks on paper. Presented in collaboration with prominent local collectors Joy and Timothy Light, this exhibition not only celebrates the beauty and cultural significance of these pieces but also marks the generous promised gift from the Lights. This exhibition delves into the artistic heritage of China and Japan by exploring a variety of media, including ink paintings, calligraphy, and woodblock prints. Among the distinguished artists featured are Huáng Bīnhóng, whose masterful ink landscapes rendered with a sense of tranquility and reverence, capture the timeless beauty of the Chinese countryside. Tan Yin’s delicate brushwork and poetic compositions evoke a sense of contemplation and introspection, inviting viewers to reflect on the ephemeral nature of the human experience. Toko Shinoda’s dynamic compositions and expressive brushstrokes fuse traditional techniques with modern sensibilities, resulting in artworks that resonate with energy and vitality.

From the bold experimentation of contemporary artists to the timeless elegance of classical masters, this exhibition offers a glimpse of China and Japan’s artistic evolutions. *The Anniversary Show: Promised Gifts from the Joy and Timothy Light Collection* celebrates the enduring legacy of Chinese and Japanese Art while highlighting the generosity of the Light family, whose promised gift enriches our collection and the cultural heritage of Kalamazoo.