

Rotary Arts Minute for 3/25/2024 Information provided by the

FREE EVENTS



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

January 20 - Jun 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. The exhibit, through photos, awards, souvenirs from her travels, and other items, showcases her work as well as her inspirations for writing.

KIDS & FAMILY



[Omnium Circus](#)

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Presented by [Miller Auditorium](#) at Miller Auditorium, 1341 Theatre Dr, Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Step into a world of all things possible where we discover the power, the passion, and the perseverance of the human spirit within each of us! Omnium means of all and belonging to all- presenting the best in family circus entertainment-inclusive and accessible at every performance.



[Family Show](#)

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 1:00 pm

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

Grab the whole family and join Crawspace Comedy Theatre for their next all-ages improv family show. Experience improv as never before. There will be interactive games and live improv comedy performances by Crawspace Eviction and our very own Kids Improv Team! Bring the kids so they can see improvisors their own age having fun with this super-fun art form. You’ll also watch some of the best adult improvisors performing material suitable for all ages. Who knows what other surprises will be in store for you at this Crawspace Comedy Theatre Family Show. It might even include you! Doors open at 12:30pm. Show starts at 1p.

TICKETS

\$5 Single Ticket

\$15 Family Ticket

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Save on tickets for groups of 3-6. When completing your purchase please indicate how many will be in your group. Each “family group ticket” you purchase allows for up to 6 attendees. If you have more than 6 in your group you can purchase single tickets, or another “Family Group Ticket”.

MUSIC

[Showman & Coole AND Laurel Premo at The Clover Room](#)

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 8:00 pm

Presented by [The Clover Room](#), 1501 Fulford St, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Showman & Coole AND Laurel Premo at The Clover Room

Doors @ 7:30pm

Show @ 8pm

Tickets are \$20: <https://www.thecloverroomkalamazoo.com/tickets-and-events>

About John Showman and Chris Coole:

Through twenty years and a couple of thousand shows together in bands such as The Foggy Hogtown Boys and The Lonesome Ace Stringband, John Showman and Chris Coole have developed a deep and instinctual musical bond. Their music lurks in a truly unique space that is somewhere on the outskirts of old-time, bluegrass, and folk. The songs of John Hartford, Hank Williams, Dock Boggs, and The Band share space with the fiddle tunes of Eck Robertson and Ed Haley. The duo’s original songs and tunes take in all these vistas and paint something both personal and timely.

They have performed across North America and Europe at festivals such as Merlefest, Rockygrass, Winnipeg Folk Festival, Mariposa, Wintergrass, Gooikroots, and The John Hartford Memorial Festival. In 2022, the duo released two albums; “Afield” a collection of old-time fiddle tunes, and “Much Further Out than Inevitable – A Tribute to Some Music of John Hartford.”

THEATRE



[SpongeBob SquarePants](#)

Apr 5 - Apr 14, 2024 at 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm

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

An exciting new musical featuring irresistible characters and magical music, this deep-sea pearl of a show is set to make a splash with audiences young and old. Plunge into this stunning all-singing, all-dancing, dynamic stage show! When the citizens of Bikini Bottom discover that a volcano will soon erupt and destroy their humble home, SpongeBob and his friends must come together to save the fate of their undersea world. With lives hanging in the balance and all hope lost, a most unexpected hero rises. The power of optimism really can save the world!

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VISUAL ARTS



[High School Area Show 2024](#)

March 30 - Apr 28, 2024

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

Since 1982, the High School Area Show has often been the first opportunity for high school artists throughout Kalamazoo and the surrounding region to enter a juried exhibition and see their artwork on the walls of a museum. Students have the opportunity to win scholarships and prizes. Last year, \$1,776,000 was offered by art schools and colleges throughout the Midwest. The KIA is proud to support future artistic talent, helping further these high school artists' access to the arts and art education. The High School Area Show welcomes submissions from high school artists residing in Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren counties. Please email MuseumEd@kiarts.org with any questions. In-person award ceremony: Friday, March 29, 2024. Free Entry on March 30.



[American Realism: Visions of America, 1900-1950](#)

January 20, 2024 - April 14, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

American Realism: Visions of America, 1900-1950 looks at this period through the paintings, drawings, and prints that sought to capture the new American experience, especially within the nation's burgeoning and rapidly evolving urban centers. Drawing primarily from the collections of three Michigan museums—the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Flint Institute of Arts, and the Muskegon Museum of Art—the show begins in the early 1900s and continues through the 1940s, highlighting artists whose work sought to define the era. The exhibition also explores the contributions of women and artists of color active during this period, to share a deeper look into the stories and lives of those who did not always receive widespread attention during that era.



[Kyungmi Shin: A Story to Finding Us](#)

January 20, 2024 - May 12, 2024 at 11:00 am

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

Kyungmi Shin: A Story to Finding Us continues the artist's explorations of the historical narratives embedded in painting and ceramic practices flowing between the East and West. For this unique exhibition, Shin selected works from the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts' Chinese ceramics collection.