Greetings!

If you follow the Gregorian calendar you are celebrating a New Year and we are sending you our warmest wishes for 2018.

In our New Year newsletter we shine a light on seven exceptional events taking place during January. That's seven. To say that the first month of our calendar year is already as a cup running over would be an understatement.

Before we share these, we make a special call to our artists. Please complete this career survey, designed in order to understand your needs and aspirations, so that we might better serve you. Don’t let this opportunity pass - please participate!

This month we celebrate our seventh year partnering with Wild & Scenic Film Festival; we encourage you to attend the manifold events of Belonging, our California Arts Council Artists in Communities initiative; we urge you to mark your calendars for the Opening Reception of Image Nation’s stunning 2018 exhibit; and we trust you will immerse yourselves in another funny, smart, thought-provoking year with the Nugget Fringe Theatre Festival.

During January we recommend you register for this year's Sierra Writers Conference; we encourage attendance - whoever you are - at an important Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District Public Stakeholder Meeting; and - finally - if you do attend this key event, then we also hope to send you straight from there to Yuba Lit’s January reading that same evening.

Throughout the month to come, we will send you news bites to remind you of these special events. For now, as Rilke says, "we welcome the new year, full of things that have never been," and in anticipation of each and every one of them.
Fred Beckey is the original American "Dirtbag" climber whose name has evoked mystery, adulation and vitriol since the 1940s.

Beckey's stubborn, singular quest to conquer peaks meant a solitary life on the road, where he left a long trail of scorned climbing partners and lost lovers in his wake.

The groundbreaking life story of this rebel athlete, who inspired generations of climbers to head for the mountains with his monumental first ascents and eloquent books, is told for the first time in this exclusive documentary film, *Dirtbag: The Legend of Fred Beckey*. It is one of 150 films to choose from at this year's Wild & Scenic Film Festival.

**16th Anniversary Wild & Scenic Film Festival**

**January 11-15**

This year's festival theme is 'Groundswell,' designed to inspire and unite communities to help heal the earth. Over the course of five days and at 10 venues, more than 125 of the world's premiere environmental and adventure films will screen alongside activist workshops, panels, music, art exhibitions, and special guest and filmmaker appearances.

A special feature of the festival is visual art. Already, across Grass Valley and Nevada City, the Wild & Scenic Art Committee is hanging the works of scores of local artists. Displaying environmentally themed juried work continues to be a key element at this special time of year, and working with local business and galleries to support Wild and Scenic's annual exhibit is a labor of love.

**Key Dates and Links**

January 11 - Film Festival opens, and Artists Opening Reception & Award Ceremony
Full Program [here](#)
Festival at a Glance [here](#)
2018 Films [here](#)
Art Strolls [here](#) and [here](#)
Tickets and passes [here](#)

**Did you know?**

The Wild & Scenic Film Festival is considered one of the nation's premiere environmental and adventure film festivals:

- Over 40,000 people are reached annually
- $850,000 was raised were by on-tour partners in 2017
- There are 170 on-tour events globally
- There are 150 films to choose from
- Wild & Scenic has 6 eco-friendly national partners
Nevada County Arts Council’s Belonging

What do a rancher, a fire captain, a university field station manager, an outdoor life skills coach, a member of the Nisenan Tribe, a radio host, an artist, and the great grandson of one of our earliest immigrant Chinese all have in common?

Our ongoing California Arts Council Artists in Communities initiative, Belonging, sees Artist-in-Residence Ruth Chase create a deeper sense of connection between community members from all walks of life and the land they share.

During January we invite YOU to these special events with Ruth:

FREE EVENTS

January 7 at 9-9.45am - Live Conversation via Facebook (register here)
January 12 at 1-3.30pm - Making Art on the Earth (register here)
January 13 at 8.30am - Wild & Scenic Film Festival Coffee Chat (register here)

A FUNRAISER FOR BELONGING!

January 21 at 3-5pm - Paint N Sip Party - Create your own Georgia O'Keeffe (register here)

Contact Ruth for more information here.
supporting our veterans.
sharing their story.

an exhibition of work by and for veterans and the community.

OPENS
thurs January 18
5-7 pm
runs thru April 2018

ROOD CENTER
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City

More information can be found here.

Thursday January 18-Sunday January
Lois and Scott Ewing have had a good year. Quest Theaterworks won four Elly awards at the 35th annual Elly awards in Sacramento just months ago, and the Company is now set to present another season of edgy, relevant (or irreverent) theatre at the Nugget.

More to follow about the Nugget in the weeks to come but use these links for information and tickets in the meantime:

- Advance registration here.
- Information here.

Imagine Charlie Chaplin stumbles into a painting by Salvador Dalí; that should give a sense of the genre-defying show, Figmentally.

On Saturday January 20, Sierra College and Sierra Writers will present the Third Annual Sierra Writers Conference at Sierra College.

Activities include the keynote address presented by local author and Sierra College professor Gary Noy, performances by poet Grace Totherow and the Poets Quartet, and an array of workshops provided by writers Kim Culbertson, Betsy Fasbinder Rachel Howard, Patricia Dove Miller, Sands Hall, Dimitri Keriotis, and Shawn Odyssey.

For more information visit Sierra Writers Conference.

PUBLIC STAKEHOLDER MEETING - GRASS VALLEY-NEVADA CITY CULTURAL DISTRICT

Join Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District partners at its big January meeting at the Rood Center in Nevada City - that's Thursday January 25 at 5-7pm!
Nevada County Arts Council, together with the Cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City and both Chambers of Commerce, will facilitate a convening on "Shaping the future of Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District."

City Staff and Councilmembers, our Chambers of Commerce and Nevada County Arts Council welcome you for a presentation on the California Cultural Districts Program, and progress towards priorities established since becoming designated as one of only fourteen Cultural Districts in July this year.

Howard Levine, Mayor of Grass Valley says: "Since late summer we've been meeting with stakeholders around what our priorities should be during the first two years of our five-year designation. A clear emerging priority is defining a Community Arts Plan for our district, together with making sure that the story of our twin city cultural district is shared far and wide."

Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District partners welcome interested community members from all sectors. Duane Strawser, Mayor of Nevada City, says: "Stakeholders from our business, health, and education communities - as well as our County Supervisors and Departments - all have a role to play and will all enjoy the results over time. We need everyone to pitch in - and we'll be ready with information and the beginnings of a toolkit to share."

Please request disability related accommodation for the event at least 72 hours in advance and we"ll try to help. We can be reached by email at info@nevadacountyarts.org.

Information on the California Cultural District program can be found here.

POETS AMONG US

During 2017 Nevada County Arts Council was honored to accept fiscal sponsorship of Yuba Lit, a reading series founded, produced and hosted by author Rachel Howard.

Yuba Lit will be presenting Indigo Moor and Molly Fisk in January - as readers and in conversation with one-another.

As usual the names of eight great poets among those in attendance will be drawn to read just one poem each.

We hope you will attend - click here for more information!

AND A SAVE THE DATE:

Nevada County Arts Council is delighted to announce the date of its 2nd Annual Sierra Poetry Festival - Saturday April 28 at Sierra College!
Join the NCArts Family!

Nevada County Arts Council | info@nevadacountyarts.org | 530.278.5155

Connect with us!