Greetings!

Warmest wishes for Independence Day. In the art world we tend to question ourselves on these sorts of holidays.

How free are we? With liberty is there responsibility? What role does art play - and why can't art just sing to the soul? With July's wealth of cultural events, we challenge you to let it do just that.

This year’s 4th of July Parade kicks off today in Downtown Nevada City with a theme of Sweet Home Nevada County - indicative of the 116 years of partnership for this parade between Nevada City and Grass Valley.

In our newsletter we thank our extraordinary community for showing up in numbers - and speaking up - at California Arts Council's recent public meeting.

We throw a light on California WorldFest 2018 as this month's Editor's Choice. We think it's great that fantastic programing is occurring even during such a significant capital campaign for the Center for the Arts.

We remind our arts community of just a few of the the resources available to them as members, while highlighting the recent accomplishments of one particular artist, Claudia Jeffers, in our special Artists of Nevada County feature.

We let you know about a fantastic free event we're presenting in partnership with Racial Literacy Nevada County, anchoring this World Cafe-style workshop around the innovative work of Nevada County Artist in Residence, Ruth Chase.

We highlight eight additional upcoming events and initiatives this month, from Nevada City Film Festival's ongoing summer series of Movies Under the Pines, to Grass Valley's fabulous Thursday Night Markets and Sierra Stages' James and the Giant Peach at Nevada Theatre.

Last but far from least, we are happy to announce a new newsletter we are about to launch on behalf of Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District. In the next few days, for those who live...
within the District, you will begin to receive weekly news-bites alerting you to some of the most interesting cultural events locally, and lending ways to get involved.

Watch this space!

Until soon, and in friendship.

Eliza Tudor
Executive Director
Contact Eliza

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Resources for our Arts Community

We want to be sure our member artists and our arts organizations are aware of these great resources:

- Become members of Nevada County Arts Council [here](#)
- Then create an artist profile [here](#)
- Post your events at our Community Arts Calendar [here](#)
- For our visual arts community, make sure you take advantage of our Annual Nevada County Visual Artist & Gallery Guide [here](#)
- Interested in co-hosting an Artist Gathering with us? Email us [here](#)
- Get involved with Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District and Truckee Cultural District - let us know you are interested [here](#)

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Thank you for attending!

During June we were honored to host the California Arts Council at a public meeting at the Miners Foundry in Nevada City.

We counted at least 150 attendees including State-Local Partners from Nevada, Mariposa, Redding, Tuolumne, Sierra, Yuba-Sutter, and San Benito counties.

Our Grass Valley and Nevada City
Managers and Mayors attended, along with our incoming County Executive and her deputy, representatives from three California Cultural Districts, an array of local arts organizations and California Arts Council grantees.

Congressman LaMalfa's District Director attended, as did local business and hospitality sector representatives, and the new interim Executive Director for Californians for the Arts and California Arts Advocates, our own Julie Baker. Two board members of the latter, Eliza Tudor and Debra Lucero, were also present.

Highlights for us were hearing such strong support for the State-Local Partner Program in what must have been the most enthusiastic Public Comments section of the agenda we've ever heard at a California Arts Council public meeting. Also being able to express the urgent need for investment in rural communities and hearing grantees address California Arts Council on the impact of their funding and the heartfelt responses from the Council in return.

Many thanks to Gretchen Bond and staff at the Miners Foundry for their gracious hosting of us on the day, before and after. And our thanks, too, to BriarPatch Food Coop for its generous presence - we couldn't be more grateful for our on-going partnership which so supports community building in Nevada County. Love.

Thank you, too, to our own fantastic arts community from across the County and to friends from Truckee. Your voices were heard!

Enjoy these lovely pictures of the day, taken by Kial James, courtesy of Nevada County Arts Council in partnership with Sierra FoodWineArt.
Artists of Nevada County  Claudia Jeffers

The month we interviewed sculptor Claudia Jeffers, an artist in residence and teacher at Artists' Studios in the Foothills (ASIF) in Grass Valley.

Just last week, one of Claudia's works received a third place award at Blue Line Gallery's Second Annual International Ceramic Competition in Roseville.

Tell us about the title of your winning piece, "The Sky was Pale Pink and Pale Yellow and Pale Grey."

It was the opening sentence of a Golden Book I had when I was a child, called CIRCUS TIME. I also have a piece from the same series in the "Persistence" show at MONCA in Chico, which runs through July 15.

It was a thrill for me to get third out of 80!

Tell us about your art form.

I am a figurative Ceramic sculptress. My figures are wall mounted on a hand painted wooden stage with an encaustic background.

At what age did you discover your love of art, and realize that you have a talent?

I've worked in ceramics since I was five, starting at the Richmond Art Center in the Bay Area with Ernie Kim in the ceramics department. But I feel I'm only now - in mid-life - finding my voice. I'm too
What is your creative process?

I create my characters with a model or spontaneously. They live in the studio awhile, as a story starts to take shape. Small ceramic busts seem to have a life of their own.

What is the art project or piece you are most proud of?

I don't know, I have many series in progress now... but maybe 'Cowgirl Love.'

What do you love best about the art community in our county?

The collaborative nature of it, good friends, encouragement, sharing.

Name two Nevada County artists whose work you admire, and why.

Deborah Bridges is a brilliant, dedicated, sculptress and a dear friend. And Denise Wey - her largest river paintings - so well loved in our county. She has been a good friend to me professionally also.

What is your current or next art venture?

Working on The Cowgirl Love series, and some more local themes, Caroline’s Baristas and some pot farmers. I'll just keep on, trying to express our humanity, hopefully with a bit of humor as well.

Claudia can be found at:

Artists' Studios in the Foothills
940 Idaho Maryland Road
Grass Valley, CA 95945

530.274.7000

Gallery Hours:
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11am-2pm
Or by appointment

She is showing her work as part of
Off Center Second Annual International Ceramic Competition at:

Blue Line Gallery
405 Vernon Street Roseville

Dates: June16-July21
Closing reception: July 21
Juror: Michelle Gregor

Find more about Claudia’s work here, or contact her by email here.
Racial Literacy - a free workshop

When: Sunday, July 29 at 3-5pm

Where: Summer Thyme’s, 231 Colfax Avenue, Grass Valley

What: RACIAL LITERACY CAFE ON BELONGING TO THE LAND

Inspired by Nevada County Arts Council’s ambitious multi-media installation about the land we live on and the notion of belonging, Racial Literacy Nevada County offers a free, facilitated community conversation in the World Café style at Summer Thyme’s where the BELONGING Community Exhibition, curated by lead artist Ruth Chase, is on display.

Racial Literacy Nevada County is collaborating with Chase to create an opportunity for local residents to experience, as she states, "powerful insights that allow people to find a sense of belonging within their community." We also welcome Nevada City Rancheria Secretary Shelly Covert.

Join us as we talk with each other in a real and candid way about our own sense of belonging along with our relationships with the Nisenan people and this beautiful region that the Nisenan have called "home" for thousands of years.

This community conversation is free and open to the public. Space is limited. The kitchen closes at 4pm, so arrive early to place food and drink orders and reserve your seat.

Racial Literacy explores race, privilege, and oppression by hosting community conversations and storytelling gatherings. We believe in the power of education, open dialogue, and deep listening as tools to heal and release the shame and discomfort experienced around discussions of race. From this place of honesty, we can be better activated as a community to show up for racial justice in our daily lives, as well as on larger systemic levels. For more information, find Racial Literacy on Facebook.

- Ruth Chase’s Belonging project can be found here and here.
- Information about the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe can be found here.

Free Admission - Suggested donations only!
Editor's Choice: 2018 California Worldfest

When: Thursday, July 12, 2018 to Sunday, July 15 2018

Where: Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley

Tickets: Click here

What: More than 6,000 patrons per day turn California's most beautiful fairgrounds into a world village where creativity and unity are encouraged, and where some of music's most ground-breaking artists are welcomed each year.

A brand new main stage will be revealed at this year's event, including an additional video screen, new sound, new lights, and a bigger performance space overall. Video screens have been raised higher, making for easy viewing no matter where you end up enjoying the show.

"Music brings us together," says The Center for the Arts' Executive Director Amber Jo Manuel. "It helps us understand each other, our differences, and grow to become a stronger community by opening our hearts to the beat and dancing to the music of the world together."

Information

Click here for information at Center for the Arts
Click here to buy tickets for California WorldFest 2018
Upcoming Arts Events in Nevada County

- click on each picture for more information -

Musical Mondays At The Nevada County Library all through July

First Friday Art Walk on July 6th

Nevada City Film Festival and the City of Nevada City present an outdoor cinema experience for the entire family.

Grass Valley Downtown Association's Thursday Night Markets - all through July

8th Annual Summer Concert on the Green on July 6 & 7 at Tahoe Donner Driving Range in Truckee

Sierra Stages presents JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH on July 12- -August 4

Sierra Storytelling Festival on July 20-22 at North Columbia Schoolhouse

Find Truckee Cultural District at Truckee Thursdays all through July.

You can find a full listing of Nevada County’s arts events here.

Join the NCArts Family!

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