Welcome to Culture Connection,
Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District's newsletter featuring the stories and people of our community

Polly's Paladar
The Culinary Arts at Play
World Food with Local Flavor

Established in January 2012, the mission of Polly's Paladar was to showcase gifted cooks from all over the world, and it worked.

"Each Paladar feels like an original creation emerging from years of dreams, family traditions, and the confluence of hopes. My wish is for you to leave each Paladar with this understanding. You experience a multitude of details representing decades of culinary craft. The circumstances that bring these individuals together to create a Paladar are nothing short of remarkable, and you get to see it all. It's kismet. This one on April 12th and 13th, just happens to..."
Korean kismet. " Megan Hart.

Once news of a secret supper club was out, aided and abetted by bloggers like Erin Thien of Outside Inn, the project took off. Over the last eight years, the Paladar has become a thing, a Nevada City destination. Owner Megan Hart focuses on using produce from local farms and small businesses. Every Paladar highlights regional artists and musicians, and donates to a new local non-profit every month. Megan is proud that she can pay a living wage to the rotating dinner team and does not discriminate based on age, gender, orientation, religion, or political affiliation.

Guest chefs are hand-picked and vetted, creating a one-of-a-kind dining experience. Diners spend over two hours in the midst of handmade tables, heirloom silverware, and meticulously crafted centerpieces. Most dinners feature music appropriate to the menu's theme.

Diners won't find a typical restaurant experience at the Paladar. Instead, they'll be seated with new people who will share the evening's dining adventure. Cell phones are discouraged in favor of staying in the moment, although some are guilty of needing to post just one photo of the entree or of the inventive cocktail.

Polly's Paladar has earned recognition in the food culture of Northern California. They have raised funds for Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, South Yuba River Citizens League, Sierra Harvest, Hospitality House, The Bear Yuba Land Trust, Nevada County Midwives Collective, and the Child Advocates of Nevada County, and are adding more non-profits to that list every year.

April's Nokni dinner benefits CHIRP.

Businesses Supporting Art/Art Enhancing Business

Treehouse Cottage

The AirBNB Treehouse Cottage is owned and operated by Amanda, a figurative sculptor, mother and visual-art center director. In her property, she features her own work and that of other local artists, such as Heather deViveiros and Grace Pieper.

The 800-sq-ft Treehouse Cottage is an ideal space for beautiful art. Her guests have expressed great excitement about the rotating artists' displays. She's hoping to sell a piece to a guest who expressed interest in it when they return for their second stay at her cottage this spring. Fingers crossed! When we asked her why it was important to hang local art, she said:
“It’s important for me as an artist to feature visual artists from Nevada County because we have such a community of talented, wonderful people here. I also feel proud to have now created two destinations that offer locals and visitors alike the opportunity to connect with local artists.”

Amanda is a sculptor and also the owner, director of the Artists' Studio in the Foothills (ASiF) in Grass Valley, CA.

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**Businesses Supporting Art/Art Enhancing Business**

**Courtyard Suites**

Grass Valley's Courtyard Suites provides a blend of bed-and-breakfast charm and posh hotel amenities. Nestled in a quiet neighborhood of Grass Valley that is actually only a block from Main St., the hotel and guests' rooms give visitors a sense of getting away from it all, yet they're within quick walking distance of new breweries, restaurants, and shops.

Manager Danielle Scallin is a strong supporter of the GVNC Cultural District. She features local art in the lobby and breakfast/bar of the hotel. Last month Judy Adams's acrylics were featured, this month features Ron Kenedi. The goal of the art program is not only to expose guests to our local artists but to encourage guests to fall in love with local works and purchase a piece of art to take home.

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**Community Spotlights**

APRIL 2019

[Image of Arts & Culture Month poster]
It's official! April is *Arts, Culture and Creativity Month* in the state of California. Here in Western Nevada County this is one more opportunity to share with the world how seriously we value our arts, culture and creative scene.

You can find out more about Arts, Culture and Creativity Month at Nevada County Arts Council's new page on Advocating for the Arts. For now, for those who wish to learn more about becoming an arts advocate, here is an important event for your calendar:

Join us on **April 23** for *Arts, Culture & Creativity Advocacy Day* at the Capitol in Sacramento as part of the month-long celebration of *Arts, Culture & Creativity Month*!

Let's connect, advocate and mobilize our efforts to advance the arts across the county and across the state!
Public Launch of the Nevada County Economic Impact Study of the Arts

With special guest Randy Cohen, Vice President of Research and Policy at Americans for the Arts

During 2018 we worked with Americans for the Arts to initiate the first countywide economic impact study of the arts, surveying close to 100 entities engaged in arts programming, and well over 1000 audience members across Nevada County.

Join us during California Arts, Culture & Creativity Month at this important public launch, and learn about how the arts create jobs, generate commerce and drive tourism in Nevada County.

Where:
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Eric Rood Government Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

When:
Thursday, April 18, from 5-7 pm
Doors 5 pm, Launch 5:15 pm, A Toast to the Arts 6:30 pm
FIRE SAFE COUNCIL OF NEVADA COUNTY IS VERY EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR 2019 YOUNG CREATORS ART CONTEST.

There are 2 categories for contest submissions – a poster or a new logo design. Winners in both categories will take home a prize pack. Winning artwork will be on display all around the community in use for years to come. Participants must be current Nevada County residents between 13 and 19 years of age. More details to come! Official contest rules and weekly updates and PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENTS will be posted on our Facebook page.

We are still accepting local sponsorships from individuals or businesses for prize packages. Every one of our sponsors and the items they donate will be part of a running list to show what awesome local prizes are up for grabs. Sponsors and prizes will also be featured at the FSCNC Submission Gallery Booth at the Annual Community Wildfire Preparedness Day.

Contact Billy Spearing for more information about how you or your teens can get involved in this project: 530-272-1122, or office@areyoufiresafe.com
Upcoming Events

**Back to the Future — A Conversation with Julia Morgan**

Sunday, April 28, 2 - 4 pm

The North Star House presents a conversation with Julia Morgan, with Betty Marvin as Julia Morgan.

Learn how Julia Morgan laid the foundation for the future of professional women. You will meet her through Betty Marvin and visit one of Morgan’s first residential commissions, the North Star House.

Over 1,000 events are listed on the Nevada County Arts online community calendar. From concerts and theatrical productions, to gallery openings and literary talks, find out what's happening in Grass Valley and Nevada City by clicking on the link below. Take advantage of this great free resource as well as promote your upcoming events.

**Sierra Poetry Festival, April 27 @ Sierra College Nevada County Campus**

Join us! Readings, workshops, music, an activity fair for all ages, and youth performances will be preceded by a month of festival pop-up poetry events. National Poetry Month Sierra Poetry Festival marks

**What is a Cultural District?**

The historic twin cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City merge in the Sierra Foothills amidst pristine rivers and picturesque forests deep within California's Gold Country. Home to the Nisenan, the area's oldest indigenous people, the district is rich in cultural histories and the arts, and has an exciting emerging wine culture. The twin cities offer
outstanding year-round programming in music, theater, and dance, with an abundance of artists and makers and a festival culture to die for.

We recently presented the Cultural Asset interactive map to Nevada County's Tourism Committee. Check it out #GVNCCulturalDistrict

Share what you love about the Cultural District by hashtagging your photos on Instagram and we'll share them in our next newsletter. Pictured below (l to r)

**Judy Adams** was recently featured at Courtyards Suites in Grass Valley;

**Ron Kenedi's** work, "Well, Red," is currently on display at Courtyard Suites.

This is happening at the Forge today! Come and get your Makery on! Visit our website for membership and public workshops on our calendar, Beginning Jewelry Fabrication workshops. [www.thecuriousforge.org](http://www.thecuriousforge.org) #thecuriousforge #makeandcreate#makingissoulcraft#gvnculturaldistrict #makerspace

THANK YOU Nevada County! 💖 You have voted The Book Seller as your favorite bookstore for 2018 according to @theunionnews Best of Nevada County Awards. We’re so glad to be in this community. Be sure to come to say “hi” next time you’re on Mill Street!