Welcome to Culture Connection

Historic Preservation Month!

The Historic Firehouse No. 1 Museum

One of the most photographed buildings in Nevada City, the Firehouse was completed in 1861, home to Nevada Hose Company No.1 from 1861 to 1938. During those nearly 80 years, horse-drawn fire wagons, handcarts, and “modern” motorized fire engines rolled out the doors.

Now it’s a museum.
The Nevada County Historical Society established Firehouse No. 1 as a museum in 1947. The museum has been staffed by volunteers and supported by visitor donations ever since. The Firehouse No. 1 Museum hosts four main displays of Nevada County history dating from the late 19th to the early 20th century.

Happy 160th Birthday, Miners Foundry!

You’ll hear more during the year about our wonderful cultural asset, but just to remind us all:

The Ironworks Foundry and Blacksmith Shop opened in Nevada City in 1855; it was here that the game-changing Pelton Wheel was manufactured in 1879. The wheel was instrumental in forwarding hydro-electric power and compressed-air generation and in running belt-driven machinery.

All good.

Fast forward to 1972 when David Osborn and Charles Woods purchased the then-abandoned building complex and transformed it into the unconventional American Victorian Museum. By 1990 events like the Teddy Bear Convention, Robbie Burns Night, Fright Night, and KVMR-FM established the Foundry as a go-to event center for the community.

Osborn and Woods sold the building in 1990. It is currently well taken care of by the current board of directors and Executive Director, Gretchen Bond.
Nisenan and CHIRP install public artwork in Nevada City

“The Nisenan lived and danced in a town called ‘ustomah on the same ground where Nevada City now stands. And they are still here today.”

~Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribal Council Spokesperson Shelly Covert

One of four images from the Visibility Through Art series, “Guardians of the Dance,” is currently installed in the shop window next door to Asylum Down in Nevada City. The art features a Nisenan woman dancer in full regalia. On her ceremonial belt is an ancient symbol, known to many Native American tribes as “Whirling Logs.” For the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan, this is not a symbol of hate. For them it represents the four winds, four directions, and four powers. There are more than 1,800 examples of this symbol used all over the planet to represent unity, power, and love.

This piece is a collaborative effort between Shelly Covert, CHIRP Executive Director and Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribal Spokesperson, and local artist Jenny Hale. Special thanks to Peggy Peterson, owner of Asylum Down, for the window space and continued support.
WHAT'S COMING UP!

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

On Sunday, May 19, and Tuesday, May 21, InConcert Sierra presents the Sierra Master Chorale and Orchestra conducted by their new choral director, Alison Skinner.

“The spring concert program is a celebration of life,” said Skinner. “In the first half, we will perform Gabriel Fauré’s ‘Requiem,’ a lovely work of beauty and comfort in the face of loss. The second half is about what we do with grief—celebrate the life we have now.”

For More Information

EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Railbus Through History
Every Saturday the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum's Railbus will be on track for 6 daily rides of approximately 35 minutes each. The Railbus will take you through the railyard and out into...
the local woods. On the trip, passengers will see the entrance to an old mine shaft in a beautiful meadow, Deer Creek, and after the switchback at the Northern Queen Hotel, old Indian grinding rocks. Great for kids, great for adults.

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**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

Thank you Briar Patch for supporting the Poetry Festival and, indeed, so many worthy causes in Nevada County! This month the Good Food Art Gallery is featuring the work of Heidi Woods.

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**GVNC CULTURAL DISTRICT IN THE NEWS**

Thank you to the Union for their wonderful coverage of the Sierra Poetry Festival!

Did we mention that the team from NU Theatrical Society rocked our Senator? Nevada County delegation with Senator Jim Nielsen.
Become a member of CFTA and show your support to build a sustainable and vibrant California using arts, culture, and creativity as the leading drivers for social change, economic prosperity, and wellness.

I AM HERE Public Art Installation, A Community Collaboration, opens SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019, with the grand Reception on June 7, 5-7 PM, during the First Friday Art Walk.
Robinson Plaza
132 Main St., Nevada City

Have you explored our Cultural District with our new interactive map?

Explore Nevada County