Welcome to Culture Connection

Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District's newsletter featuring the events, stories and people of our community

Nevada City Summer Nights

Nevada City Summer Nights is a street festival of art and music and has been an annual tradition in this quaint, scenic, historic – and sometimes quirky – community, for close to thirty years. The 2019 event takes place on three Wednesday evenings, July 17th, 24th,
During Summer Nights, Nevada City’s landmark historic district is closed to motorized traffic and filled with arts, crafts, classic cars, food, drink and music. Leading Sierra foothills musicians perform on outdoor stages throughout the downtown area.

This year’s musicians are:

- July 17: Running 4 Cover, Cousin Cricket, Troupe Al Ama, David Ayala, Gary & Eva, Judi Hinrichs Jazz, and John Girton
- July 24: In the Moment, Ivan Najera, Bob Woods Trio, World Beatnix, David Ayala, and Troupe Al Ama
- July 31: Star People Band, Stephen Holland, Troupe Al Ama, George Souza, David Ayala, and Sgt. Funky

Hours for Summer nights are 6-9:30 pm and there is no admission charge. There is a shuttle from the Nevada County Government Center at 950 Maidu Avenue from 5:30pm to 10pm. The shuttle costs $5 for adults; children under 15 ride free. Return journeys are free for all.

Photo: Beyond Fire Tribe at Nevada City Summer Nights
Steve Sanfield loved the craft of storytelling, and delighted in the art. Thirty-four years ago he dreamed of bringing the best storytellers from around the nation to a schoolhouse crowning a ridge, and now thirty-fours years later, the Sierra Storytelling Festival is joyously continuing Steve’s vision. This year’s festival is July 19th - 21st at the North Columbia Schoolhouse.

The storytellers include Kim Weitkamp, Motoko, Antonio Rocha, Tim Tingle, Kirk Waller and special guest Liz Nichols.

“Sierra Storytelling Festival is a dream for any storyteller/performer. Performing on stage under a ceiling of tree canopies, crisp sails, and blue skies; a warm and welcoming audience; delicious food and craft beer. Add to that a wide blend of stories and music and seriously, why would you do anything or go anywhere else that weekend?” - Kim Weitkamp

Photo: Sierra Storytelling Festival

Purchase Tickets
The Children's Festival

On Friday, July 19th, The Children's Festival will return to Pioneer Park in Nevada City. The park will be transformed into a lively Renaissance Faire for children with over twenty arts and crafts tables, strolling minstrels, jugglers, magicians, face-painters, a bridge-guarding troll, a bevy of faeries, mermaids, a bubble jester, Pyrate Skool, Pepper the Witch, medieval fencing, marionettes, catapults, Queen Elizabeth and her court, and Claude, the life-sized mechanical dragon.

Sponsored by Gold Country Kiwanis, The Children's Festival is one of the premiere summer events for kids. Children are able to make their own tunics, swords, shields, crowns, macaroni necklaces and magic wands. They are able to engage in wood block construction, soapstone carving, Renaissance rubbings, solar art, and clay modeling. The Audubon Society will be returning with their painted wooden birds and bird masks and the very popular Castle will be available to paint.

There is an entertainment stage with performances throughout the morning and evening, including Juggler/Storyteller Izzi Toinsky, Marionette Theatre, and a magic show by Pixie Blossom of Pixie Tribe Entertainment. Each session will end with the Queen’s Procession and Festival Parade, and all attendees are invited to participate.
This year’s Children’s Festival will once again have two sessions, from 9am – noon and from 5pm - 8pm. Admission to each session is $3. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Photo: Troll and Fairie at The Children's Festival

Share Your Story

Nevada County Arts Council wants to hear from you! If you have a story that you feel should be shared by us on social media or in one of our newsletters, please submit the information by clicking the link below.
Searls Historical Library Book Sale

The Searls Library Book Sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, **July 19th and 20th**, from 10am to 4pm at the History Center at 161 Nevada City Highway, Nevada City. The sale includes hundreds of books in a wide range of genres from fiction to biography to science, and more. You can fill a grocery bag for $3 and back issues of the Nevada County Historical Society bulletins are only 10¢. All sales benefit the Searls Historical Library.

"HerStory" at Miners Foundry

[Miners Foundry](#) and [Aerial Lab](#) will present HerStory in three performances: **Friday, July**
19, and Saturday, July 20 at 8:00pm, with a matinee on Saturday, July 20 at 2:00pm. Doors will open one hour before the performance time.

"HerStory" is born of a desire to look into the eyes of equality, recognize the triumphs and failures there, and find a way forward as humans in solidarity. It is a tale of growth, realization, and compassion in an aerial, acrobatic, and dance extravaganza!

The Aerial Lab is a locally owned and operated small business, teaching circus arts and aerial dance to people of all ages and abilities. The Lab is run by women who have dedicated their lives to dance, aerial, and acrobatics, and who care deeply about community and the arts. Established in 2016, The Lab has grown into Nevada County's premier spot to learn the physical art of Circus.

The Aerial Lab is also home to a professional performance troupe of over 30 dancers, acrobats, and aerialists, many of whom will be featured in this production which will take place “in the round” with first come, first served seating.

#GVNCCulturalDistrict on Instagram

Grass Valley-Nevada City is one of 14 districts selected by The California Arts Council to serve as California’s inaugural state-designated Cultural Districts. Each one of us is an ambassador of our community, so please help us celebrate our heritage and the people, places, traditions and events that contribute to the quality of life here by sharing your
photos on Instagram with #GVNCCulturalDistrict.

Follow these local artists who are already sharing their work:
(Click on the name to view their Instagram page; click on the image to view that specific photo on their page.)

#goldfeverart