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

April 15th is Arts Advocacy Day

To celebrate Arts, Culture and Creativity month, Californians for the Arts will be hosting a Virtual Arts Advocacy Day on Wednesday, April 15th, from 10:00am to 6:00pm. Each
event on the schedule has its own Zoom session and short registration form so attendees can pick and choose when and where they want to participate. Of course, you are invited to attend all sessions!

The day will begin with an hour of live performances, followed by a session about statewide advocacy organizations, a virtual lunch hour, and a session about why Arts, Culture and Creativity are essential for California. There will be a workshop to teach you how to write an op-ed and advocacy letter, and the day will end with a virtual jam session and happy hour. A complete schedule of events, with links for registration, is here.

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Sierra Poetry Festival 2020

On **Saturday, April 18th**, the Sierra Poetry Festival is going virtual and is free to all! The full day of online events begins at 8:45am in Amsterdam with three young poets (Isadora Goudsblom, Nadia de Vries, and Jonas Van de Pool) in conversation with **Rachel Teferet**.

This will be followed by opening comments by Festival Director, and Nevada County Arts Executive Director, **Eliza Tudor** and **Shelly Covert**, Spokesperson for the Nesenan Tribe and Nevada City Rancheria, California.

The keynote speaker will be poet **Ellen Bass**. There will be readings by **Dana Gioia**, **Coleman Barks**, and **Lisa Starr**, followed by workshops, additional readings, an open mic session, **The Poetry Crashers** and **Poetry Out Loud**.

The complete list of presenters is available [here](#) and the full schedule of events is available [here](#).
Nevada County Arts Council

COVID-19 Impact Survey

To better understand COVID-19’s impact and the immediate needs of our creative sector, Nevada County Arts Council is facilitating conversations with stakeholders across all sectors. We are also actively looking into options to support and advise coordinated emergency relief efforts for individual artists and organizations, and will share information with you as it arises.

Your collective input will help inform local solutions and support, and guide key conversations and actions on your behalf - both with the County and our stakeholders. Whether you are representing an organization servicing the creative sector, or work for one, or you are a self-employed independent artist, we would like to hear from you.

Your input is important to us. This survey will take no longer than 5-10 minutes.

FREE REGISTRATION

TAKE THE SURVEY
"Belonging/HOME" Saturday Morning Questions

**BELONGING** is a multi-year program which explores our vulnerable mountain home and the people who tend it, love it and depend on it.

Now in **Year Three**, Belonging manifests as HOME, and elicits perspectives on cultural identity from our less represented populations. Ideas of “home” are being explored through the lens of art salons, our gold country history, our recovering native population, and our recent immigrants. Critical bridge building tools, including a Cultural Equity Convening, are emerging through creative practices as we meet.

You are invited to join the [Nevada County Arts Council](https://www.nevadaarts.org) and [Ruth Chase](https://www.ruth chasearts.org) every Saturday morning at 9:00am for the Saturday Morning Question. It will be LIVE on Facebook, but meets on Zoom.

1. Join Zoom at 9:00am
2. There is a new question every week
3. The meeting will be 30 minutes-ish
4. It will air live on Facebook

**ZOOM SIGN IN:**
[Join Zoom Meeting](https://zoom.us/j/117995654)
Meeting ID: 117 995 654

**WATCH ONLINE**
Nevada County Arts Council
Calendar for Virtual Events

Nevada County Arts Council's [online calendar](#) is a comprehensive resource for artists, residents and visitors. The calendar syncs automatically with [GoNevadaCounty.com](#) and from there is automatically integrated with many agencies throughout the county. Here is where you can [add your own event](#).

**Please post VIRTUAL EVENTS ONLY** as we navigate COVID-19. You are also encouraged to post events taking place in physical locations from June on, subject to change. In responding to state and federal guidance on COVID-19, please check with individual events and venues for current information.
In 2019, Nevada County Arts Council conducted a seminal study of cultural assets for their economic impact; completed a key survey of arts education in our schools; and received an unprecedented amount of state funding. They also launched, continued and/or supported a number of other key initiatives including Forest-Fire, Sierra Poetry.
Through education programs, promotional tools, service to artists, and work with California Cultural Districts, they continue to share with the world how important the creative community is to the holistic health of Nevada County.

The Nevada County Arts Council 2019 Annual Report is now available online here.

"Belonging/HOME" Virtual Art Exhibition

From April 15th through May 20th, 2020, Osborn Woods Gallery in collaboration with Nevada County Arts Council will present "HOME", a virtual exhibition showcasing local artists’ depictions of what “home” means to them. In recent weeks this question has become more relevant than ever.

Exhibiting Artists include:

- Angela Apostal
- Sheila Cameron
- Mira Clark
- Juli Elin
- Ron Kenedi
- Lori Lachman
The exhibit was curated by Juliette Morris Williams, Ruth Chase, and Eliza Tudor of the Nevada County Arts Council. Beginning on April 15th, the exhibit can be viewed online at the Osborn Woods Gallery.

HOME is an initiative of Nevada County Arts Council led by Artist Ruth Chase, generously funded in part by California Arts Council through its Artists in Communities Program.

#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 and businesses who are already sharing their images and video: (Click on the name to view their Instagram page; click on the image to view that specific photo on their page.)

#ronkenediart
#nevadacitywinery

sculpture by Juliette Morris Williams
#themagiccarpet_nevadacity