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ONE!**

A L W A Y S F R E E

ISSUE 228 SEPT. 20-OCT. 3, 2017

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# LITTLE VILLAGE



## *Buzz Kill*

Pg. 12

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Zak Neumann/Little Village



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**Little Village** is an independent, community-supported news and culture publication based in Iowa City. Through journalism, essays and events, we work to improve our community in the Iowa City, Coralville and Cedar Rapids area according to a few core values: environmental sustainability, affordability and access, economic and labor justice, racial justice, gender equity, quality healthcare, quality education and critical culture.

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Jose Llana and Laura Michelle Kelly in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *The King and I*. Photo by Matthew Murphy.

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# LETTERS

Have a score to settle? Save your rants for us. Send thoughts and letters under 500 words to [Editor@LittleVillageMag.com](mailto:Editor@LittleVillageMag.com).

## THE 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION BROUGHT SWEEPING CHANGES

with the passage of what some have called the most comprehensive pro-gun bill in Iowa's history. Although a number of these changes are concerning to public safety proponents, two fundamental pieces of regulation have been retained under the gun omnibus bill—background checks and permit to carry. These measures are critical to saving lives—data show that states that require background checks on all handgun sales have 47 percent fewer women shot to death by intimate partners, 47 percent fewer suicides by gun and 53 percent fewer law enforcement officers shot and killed in the line of duty. Similarly, research shows that states that weaken their permit systems

and limit the ability of law enforcement to deny permits to dangerous individuals see a 13-15 percent increase in violent crime. In short, these two policies are a critical part of maintaining public safety and reducing gun violence.

A dangerous and chaotic policy called Concealed Carry Reciprocity (CCR), however, is poised to gut Iowa's remaining gun safety measures. CCR is a national policy that would override state laws and make the weakest link the law of the land by forcing each state to recognize the concealed carry standards from every other state, even those that have weaker or no standards at all. This proposal would effectively allow dangerous people to carry hidden, loaded guns anywhere at any time.

Recognizing other states' concealed carry permits is not a question of standardizing regulations but of subjecting Iowans to

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by TOM TOMORROW

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inadequate or absent regulations in other states. Some proponents of CCR argue that such a policy is no different than Iowa recognizing other state driver's licenses, but this analogy only holds true if some states didn't require drivers to be licensed or even know how to drive in order to operate a vehicle. In fact, some state concealed carry permitting systems are run so poorly that they issue permits to people with felonies. Some states don't require in-state residency to get a permit, allowing individuals to apply for another state's permit (sometimes even by mail) because it's easier to get or because they have been denied a permit in their home state. Twelve states require no permit at all for concealed carry. Felons, convicted stalkers and violent criminals are among the dangerous individuals who would be able to carry guns in Iowa under CCR, and there would be little to nothing that law enforcement could do to prevent or even investigate it.

It is no surprise, therefore, that law enforcement overwhelmingly opposes CCR and the risks it poses to the lives of individual officers. Among the organizations that have publicly denounced CCR are the Fraternal Order of Police, the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Police Foundation.

Concealed Carry Reciprocity is a dangerous policy that will put the lives of Iowans at risk. I urge anyone who is committed to preventing gun violence to contact their Congressional representatives and to encourage their friends and relatives in other states to do the same. LV/

—Donna Wong-Gibbons, North Liberty



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Jangarh Singh Shyam. *Tree and Panther*, 1988. Gouache on paper. Photo courtesy of Sneha Ganguly.

**Democracy in Crisis: Fearing Deportation, Haitians flee the U.S. for Canada**

And Canada is ok with this? —*William CHiafos*

Canada knows the difference between right and wrong. —*Gloria Mueller*

**Trader Joe's will open in Coralville next month**

Can't wait to get my Vanilla Jo Jo's. —*McKenzie Gilbert*

I'm going to start a countdown calendar! LOVE TJ! —*Lori Peterson Connell*

Meh. I've never understood the draw. —*Ed Neelson*

**Interview: Iowa City school board candidate Shawn Eyestone on the issues**

Data is important but often data does not show the what the bigger picture is unfortunately. Data can be and is manipulated. In order to see the bigger picture one has to be able and willing to question data, not just observe it and decide that is reality. One has to be able to discern if data has an agenda attached to it. —*Jennifer Babcock*

**Little Village Studio Visit: Emily Jalinsky (video)**

Great video! I'm an art teacher in Kalona, and my 8th graders are working on mixed media projects right now. I think I'll show this to them to inspire them and showcase local artist! —*Casey Leonard*

Very interesting! What beautiful work you do! Your sensibility is so visible in your work. I hope that one day we could see your work in a exhibition in France! —*Zabeth Bou*

**Letter to the editor: I'm sick of talking about '13 Reasons Why'**

Why don't parents take more responsibility to block shows they don't want their kids watching instead of trying to censor it for those that do want to watch it? People need to stop censoring stuff because they do like the way certain things are portrayed. This is censorship!! —*Mark Grover*

Censorship would be if the government forbade them from showing the program. This is criticism. Just as your comment is criticism, not censorship, of this article. —*Randy Kauper*

**The oil is flowing, but one Cedar Rapids lawyer continues Iowa's fight against the DAPL**

Thank you Wally Taylor! —*Bill McKirgan*

Go Wally! Thank you! —*Genie Maybanks*

I want to sue the Iowa Utilities Board. Anybody lawyers out there game? I believe there has been an historic level of corruption, collusion and intimidation. —*Michele Dougherty*



**READER POLL:**

"I never even knew a category five [hurricane] existed" said @realDonaldTrump to reporters this week. Did you know cat.5 hurricanes existed?



**Climate change doubter appointed to head EPA district that includes Iowa**

They are not doubters or deniers. They are corrupt fucking liars who are being paid to propagate a falsehood for the short-term gain of energy stockholders. Calling them anything other than liars does a disservice to the truth. —*Josh Carroll*

Don't use doubter, it's denier when you pretend facts don't exist. —*Dave McIntosh*

No. Doubter or skeptic are proper terms. "Denier" is a slur. :/ —*Richard Paone*

It's factual. —*Dave McIntosh*

Eventually we will have to have an uprising against the elite; it's so very long over due. All they care about is \$\$\$\$ , "fk everyone else." —*Lisa Detweiler*

There are a few corners left which have yet to be fully exploited. I have little doubt the sea is warming. Climate has nothing to do but change when conditions have changed. The ocean is 3/4 of the globe. It will always win. Fuck anything that Trump's Midas touch touches. Fact check anything I just said. —*Dave Maeglin*





Photo © Humberto Howard

# La Santa Cecilia

Thursday, October 5, 2017, 7:30 pm

La Santa Cecilia, named for the patron saint of musicians, was blessed with the Grammy for Best Latin Rock Album for *Treinta Días* in 2014. Drawing inspiration from around the world, the L.A.-based band creates a hybrid of cumbia, bossa nova, rumba, bolero, tango, jazz, rock, and klezmer. A powerhouse when performing live, La Santa Cecilia offers a musical celebration night unto a religious experience.

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Democracy in Crisis

Blair Gauntt

# American Carnival

Costume and class in Trump's America. • BY BAYNARD WOODS

The political heat of 2017 has finally boiled all the political chants down to their essence. “Fuck that shit!”

More than a thousand juggalos—fans of the horror-art rap group the Insane Clown Posse (ICP)—chant this perfect refrain for our insane era in front of the Lincoln Memorial on Saturday, Sept. 16. Many of them are wearing clown paint on their faces or sporting tattoos or other signs that they are down with the clown.

Farris Haddad, who was introduced as “the motherfucking juggalawyer,” is speaking

when the chant breaks out for probably the fifth or sixth time. “We’re talking about freakin’ music here. If this is allowed to stand, and so far it has been, then we definitely don’t live in a free society anymore,” he says.

He’s talking about the fact that the FBI has designated the juggalos as a “loosely organized hybrid gang”—a 2011 designation, which, juggalos say, has real consequences. One speaker at the rally, Jessica Bonometti, said she was fired from her job as a probation officer in Virginia because she liked ICP-related photos on her personal Facebook

page. Another, Crystal Guerrero, said she lost custody of her children for going to an ICP show.

So Haddad, as juggalawyer, is trying to sue the FBI.

“The Federal Court in Detroit actually tried to dismiss our case twice now saying basically that the FBI did nothing legally wrong by gang-listing thousands of normal, everyday Americans.”

“Fuck that shit,” the crowd roars.

“That’s what we said, ‘Fuck that shit,’ Haddad says.

As Haddad tells the crowd that there is a new trial date, on Oct. 11 in Cincinnati, Chris Lopez, a man with a Van Dyke beard, long hair and a D.A.R.E. baseball hat, walks up and hands a sweatshirt and a sandwich to Michael Troy, who wears a suit and a red toboggan hat and sports a handlebar mustache.

They did not know each other.

“He’s like a brother I never met before,” Troy says, taking a bite of his sandwich.

“I give sandwiches to everybody,” Lopez says, opening up a cooler and showing me a couple dozen sandwiches.

“He gave me a jacket too, because it’s gonna get cold later,” Troy says.

Troy came from California on an overnight flight on Friday evening and is planning to leave Sunday morning. I ask him why he felt it was worth so much trouble and money, which for most people here is scarce.

“It’s my family,” he says. “Family has family’s back no matter what. They are there for each other in times of need.”

Maybe it is the California contingent that wears suits because a guy from Oakland who calls himself Ape also sports a suit beneath his clown makeup. He is part of a group

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called Struggalo Circus, which describes itself as “a ragtag and messy coalition between radicals and juggalos.”

One of Ape’s comrades, a black man, carries a sign that reads “Black Juggalos Matter.” There weren’t that many black juggalos. But, many juggalos and their supporters feel that class is at the center of the campaign against them.

“If juggalos are a gang then why aren’t individual fraternities gangs?” says writer Camille Dodero at the rally. “What’s the difference between those groups and juggalos? To me ... the difference with those kids is that those kids’ parents have money.”

A helicopter flies over. Everyone starts to hold up their hands and shoot it big old double birds.

“Most juggalos I know don’t have parents with money,” she says. “In some cases you don’t even have parents.”

Maybe I should have mentioned this sooner, but there’s another rally going on at the same time, on the other side of the Mall. Organizers disastrously dubbed it the Mother of All Rallies—even though they were significantly outnumbered by the juggalos. But with the exception of the Proud Boys, a self-described “Western chauvinist” fraternity, they don’t look like the fraternalists with rich parents. Bikers for Trump, Three Percenter militia-guys, 4chan Kekistan shitters and Captain America cosplayers, each of which, like juggalos, is distinguished by its uniform. The militia guys, for instance, wear Under Armour camos and backpacks (and had guns in Charlottesville) and the Proud Boys wear black polos with yellow stripes on the color and the sleeves.

Pretty much all of the groups somehow saw themselves as “security.” They were

there to protect the free speech of Trumpists from the media and dreaded antifa. It was mostly just them and the press, though, so when a couple antifa activists walked up to use the portajohns a palpable thrill went through the crowd.

The activists were quickly surrounded by Park Police and then by militia guys.

As Drew Ambrogi, who works with No Justice No Pride, tried to get close to the counter protesters, one of the militia members told him to step back. “You’re not a law enforcement officer,” Ambrogi said on video.

“They work for me,” a U.S. Park Police officer said of the militia man.

## Many juggalos and their supporters feel that class is at the center of the campaign against them.

But when Proud Boys came up looking like they wanted to fight, it seemed like the militia managed to calm them down and keep them away (they wouldn’t talk to me).

That’s when something kind of amazing happened. Inside this circle, one of the antifa activists, named Iggy, stood and talked for nearly an hour with one of the leaders of the militia.

“I’ve spent a lot of time trying to understand you guys, to understand the socialist mentality, to understand the communist mentality,” the militia leader says. “To me you guys are my brothers and sisters ... Why is there that difference? That’s what I’m trying to figure out.”

“It’s a divide and conquer,” Iggy says. “There’s not that much difference.” Some

antifa groups, like Redneck Revolt, have been actively reaching out to the militia groups.

“A diversity of tactics,” Iggy says later, at the juggalo march, where the presence of a black bloc made some people nervous. “These people, they’re not fascists. They’re definitely trying to distance themselves from the fascist movement.”

He says that the further alienated these militia-types are, the more likely they are to side with fascists.

At one point, as the Juggalos marched, they chanted “one of us! one of us!”—a reference to the 1932 film *Freaks*. The juggalos, antifa and the militia are all freaks. All three groups are hated and feared by the average Americans, the normies. But there are still very real differences.

A couple hours later, as the juggalos march and a black bloc of antifa activists, with their faces covered, carry a sign that reads “Whoop Whoop Fuck Nazis,” I am overwhelmed by the sense that all of these competing rallies and their attendant fashions are the essence of our spectacle-oriented politics. If you dress in black you may be called a terrorist, and if you wear clown paint or the hatchet man, you may be classified a gangster.

But if you dress in a militia uniform, the cops claim you as their own.

And, we are reminded again, as protests continue in St. Louis, if you are wearing a police uniform, you can still shoot black people and walk free.

“Fuck that shit!” LV /

*Baynard Woods is editor at large at the ‘Baltimore City Paper.’*





**BAKERSFIELD**

**MIST**

By Stephen Sachs

September 8–October 1, 2017

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# Death on the Prairie

Iowa's declining bee population provides a warning for our environmental future. • **BY NICHOLAS MCCARTY**

**D**eep in the belly of the Vermeer Science Center at Central College in Pella, Iowa, cardboard boxes are stacked against the wall in a dimly lit laboratory. The boxes contain thousands of bees—carefully preserved and meticulously categorized based on their Latin genus and species—each with a unique tale to tell. Some are as small as a gnat; others are the size of a cockroach. Their colors span the spectrum, too, from rich, reflective blues to the familiar striped yellow and black of the common honey bee. Paulina Mena, an associate professor of biology, is their veritable warden.

Mena has been studying bees for over a decade, an obsession which stems from her undergraduate experiences at Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso, Chile.

“I did my undergraduate degree in Chile, and decided to do bee stuff because Chile is a hot spot for bees. Bees like deserts; that is where they have diversified a bunch,” Mena said. “Because of that, we had a bee biologist in my department, and I did work with him as an undergrad.”

Chile has “significantly more than 436 species of bees” according to a study published in the journal *Genome*, which used DNA barcoding to estimate the number of bee species in Chile. At the time of that publication,

**Witching Hour: Honey & Mass Extinction: What every Iowan should know about the state's bee population Passes and more information at [witchinghourfestival.com](http://witchinghourfestival.com).**

Photo by Zak Neumann



436 species were known to exist based on documentation, but the authors found DNA evidence that suggests a great deal more exist in the country.

After finishing her undergraduate degree, Mena moved to Iowa in order to complete a Ph.D. in genetics and chromosome architecture at the University of Iowa.

Today, Mena works with students every summer to collect, tally and document the roughly 400 different species of bees in Iowa. Working out of Central College's field station and small, remaining prairies in nearby towns, Mena and her students assemble brightly painted traps in each hectare of prairie and, based on the number of bees that



fall into each, calculate an estimate of each species' numbers. Mena says that bee populations appear to be dwindling, particularly those species found in Iowa's native tallgrass prairie environments, though research on the issue is scarce.

"The main problem that we have now is really habitat fragmentation. It's really shocking what we've done to the native environment and the tallgrass prairie," she said.

"The foundation of biology is genetic diversity, the genes that nature has to work with," she said. "The key is that the more diversity within a species, the greater the chance that species has of coping with environmental changes. When you have isolated populations, diversity decreases, and any number of things could then lead to extinction."

Significantly, many endangered and declining bee species are crucial for the agricultural industry. According to the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, a third of the world's food supply relies on bee pollination. Corn and soybeans, Iowa's predominant crops, are wind-pollinated and do not require bees to grow, but cross-pollination and the presence of bees does increase their yields, Mena said. Many other crops, from blueberries to almonds to strawberries, absolutely rely on bees.

Illustrations by Aaron Gillespie



**Loners:** Most bees are solitary, not social.

**Home Sweet Home:** Most bees nest on the ground, but some make their own holes in wood (carpenters) or use existing holes (leaf-cutter and mason bees).

**Ouch:** Only females (of most species) can sting, because the stinger is a modified structure to lay eggs. Only the honey bee has a barbed stinger, which they lose when they sting. Most species can sting multiple times without dying.

**Foreign Imports:** Honey bees are not native to North America. The honey bees that we know today were brought over by European settlers.

#### IOWA BEES

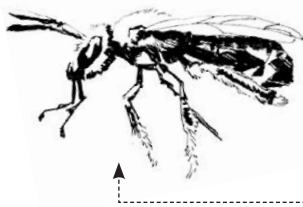
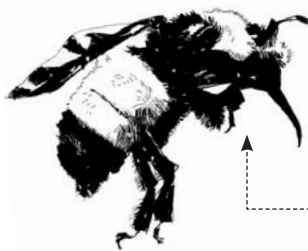
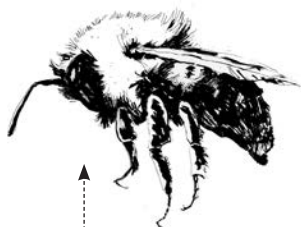
##### Bumble Bees:

Bumble bees form small, annual colonies (a new queen makes a new nest every year). One of the most common, *Bombus impatiens*, or the common eastern bumble bee, is native to the area, and populations seem to be thriving. The insect is widely used in greenhouse pollination, even outside of its natural range. They are relatively easy to breed and are commercially available.

Populations of *Bombus pensylvanicus*, or the American bumble bee, have started to decline, with a dramatic reduction in its historical range. The causes of the decline are unknown, but it is believed to be a combination of factors such as habitat fragmentation, negative effects of pesticides and parasites and pathogens.

**Green Sweat Bees:** These green, metallic bees, including the *Augochlora pura* in Iowa, are solitary and often build nests under tree bark in rotting logs. These bees can perform buzz pollination, vibrating at the right frequency to release pollen from flowers that carry pollen inside their anthers, including crops such as tomatoes and potatoes.

**Masked Bees:** Belonging to the genus *Hylaeus*, these tiny insects, including some as small as 0.14 inches, are black with yellow or white markings on their face. They are from the most ancestral family of bees, which means they are more wasp-like. Members of this tiny species eerily resemble small hornets and lack pollen-collecting structures, called scopa, opting instead to carry the pollen in their "honey stomach."



## COMMUNITY

“But even if it’s not important for the main crops here, we still eat a lot of things besides corn and beans. Without bees, our health would suffer because there are a lot of nutrients that are only in plants pollinated by bees.”

While common honey bees pollinate many important crops, they are not nearly as gifted at the task as their less well-known relatives. The green sweatbees, for instance, can perform buzz pollination, which means that they detach their back muscles from their wings and vibrate them at a frequency matched to that of the flower, causing the pollen inside to be released into the air. Other species, like the masked bees, are as small as 0.14 inches, with black and yellow or white markings on their face. These tiny insects eerily resemble small hornets and, like the honey bee, are generalist pollinators. A miniature torso, however, enables masked bees to enter flowers with pinhole-sized openings to harvest the pollen inside.

To Mena, it seems likely that these atypical bee species are suffering the same tragic fate as their bumble and honey bee counterparts. While we do not know precisely how quickly they are dying off, it seems certain that habitat destruction and pesticide use are the leading culprits.

Back-to-back studies published in *Science* by researchers at the Natural Environment Research Council and the Department of Biology at York University in the United Kingdom both show frightening implications for a commonly-utilized class of pesticides called neonicotinoids. The vast majority of seeds sown by farmers today are coated with this pesticide. When the seed sprouts, the entire plant becomes covered in the chemical, including its pollen.

The researchers of the York study, which focused on the use of neonicotinoids on corn crops, demonstrate that exposure to natural concentrations of the pesticide for four months, the majority of the bees’ active



Zak Neumann/Little Village

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season, killed both worker bees and queen bees over time. When neonicotinoids were used in conjunction with fungicides, the bee populations died off even more rapidly—the neonicotinoids became twice as toxic.

The other study focused on honey bee and wild bee populations in Hungary, Germany and the U.K. and, instead of corn, the researchers followed large-field experiments of oilseed rape plants grown with or without neonicotinoid-treated seed coatings. In Hungary, honey bees exposed to the treated plants had a 24 percent decline in population the following spring. Wild bees exposed to the neonicotinoids also had a loss in reproductive capabilities, indicating that the pesticide caused a reduced capacity of bee species to sustain their population after exposure.

Neonicotinoids are neurotoxins which have profound and poorly understood effects on the brains of native bees. Europe passed a temporary ban on the use of neonicotinoids in 2013 and is considering making the ban

permanent, but the chemicals are still used in the U.S.

“Doses are sublethal to the bees, but it messes with them and affects their immune system, which makes them vulnerable to other things, such as mites or parasites and viruses,” Mena said. “This is definitely happening with the bumble bees, but we also think it is affecting native bees, though very few have been studied.”

While the diminished bee populations are a serious concern, Mena says that just about anyone can make a difference in their chance for survival. Dandelions and an unkempt lawn are good for bees, as are plants with bright flowers. Avoid using weed killers and grow native prairie plants, including mint, black-eyed susans and sunflowers. LV/

*Nicholas McCarty is a master's student at Imperial College in London and an enthusiast for winged insects that help create delicious foods. Follow him @NikoMcCarty.*



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Zak Neumann/Little Village

# Kitchen Community

Iowa Kitchen Connect brings together kitchens and the chefs who need them. • **BY HELAINA THOMPSON**

Maybe you've been told, "This tastes so good—you could open a restaurant."

But starting a food business is a lot harder than it sounds. A new website makes that leap a little less daunting, partnering commercial kitchens in Iowa with people looking for a licensed place to prepare food.

"To put together your own kitchen requires a lot of money and licensing," said Jake Kundert, project lead of Iowa Kitchen Connect, the online platform that links food entrepreneurs with commercial kitchens in Iowa. "A commercial kitchen needs to have stainless steel and washable walls. It needs to be inspected."

The project, which launched in Iowa City in 2015, was inspired by other community kitchens "popping up around the country," said Kundert. It is managed by The Iowa Valley Resource Conservation and Development and has since expanded to cities and towns across the state of Iowa.

The Iowa Kitchen Connect website features a map of Iowa showing the currently rentable commercial kitchens (two in Iowa City; one each in Davenport and

Des Moines), their rental rates, availability, equipment and rules. Entrepreneurs can fill out a rental request form on the website for review by kitchen managers. This fall, Iowa Kitchen Connect will host a series of Starting Off Right workshops, offering in-person net-

**"There was nothing that we had to purchase; there was adequate space to do everything." —Todd Jones**

working opportunities, as well.

Todd Jones, co-owner of Bao Chow in Iowa City's Old Capitol Town Center, rents space from The 1105 Project in Iowa City, a commercial kitchen listed on Iowa Kitchen Connect's website. "We have the kitchen two days a week from 5 p.m. until midnight. We use the kitchen for prep work all the way through cooking, then we transport [the bao] back to [the Old Capitol Town Center]."

Jones and his partners, Yanyi Zhu and Connor McGuire, make thousands of Chinese

bao per week in The 1105 Project kitchen, said Jones.

"They offer everything that [we] need in there ... There was nothing that we had to purchase; there was adequate space to do everything. The kitchen meets all of our demands."

On the Iowa Kitchen Connect website, commercial kitchen managers can fill out a short form and the website will generate more than 15 pages of official documents for kitchen policies such as sanitation and cleaning procedures and rules for facility use.

"It's a really incredible tool," said Kundert. "It really is helping organizations that have kitchen space to be able to develop ... a really solid revenue source."

Sara Sedlacek,  
Communications and

Development Director of the Johnson County Crisis Center, which runs The 1105 Project kitchen rental program, said the center has "taken feedback from some of the renters in the past, and we've taken that feedback and made sure we have the right equipment and that we have a kitchen that people want to rent. It's a really nice kitchen."

"Having the space is so critical to making that leap from making amazing pies in your [home] kitchen to being able to sell them commercially," Sedlacek said. LV /





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Hot Tin Roof is a program to showcase current literary work produced in Iowa City. The series is organized and juried by representatives of three IC-based cultural advocacy organizations: The Englert Theatre, Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature and Little Village magazine, with financial support from M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art.

## Hot Tin Roof: September grows in the garden

Sometimes, when she's bored,  
she goes into the garden, covers herself  
with earth and pretends that she is a carrot.

She crowds in among the fairer fruits  
and vegetables, laying her legs in trenches of dirt  
between noble winter squash, their cool, waxy hides  
brushing against her prickling skin.  
With cupped palms she takes the dirt  
and rubs at her skin with its damp secrets.

She stills the wriggling of her curious toes,  
lays down in the din of life-moving, sugar-making,  
skin-stretching, worms-digging, pain-easing,  
and gives herself over to the most somatic of pleasures.

Over time, she grows roots. She plumps,  
and her skin flushes scarlet in the cold; winter comes,  
and she is one for the harvest.

This is what it is to nourish, she thinks, enjoying  
the soft tease of each warm, cinnamon bite.  
She lays her soft body down in your belly,  
tickles your insides with a gentle caress,  
gives you laughter, makes you smile. LV/

*Lex Gómez is a graduate student in neuroscience at the University of Iowa, where she studies sensorimotor development. She is passably good at a smattering of things and enjoys devoting time to learn new tricks.*

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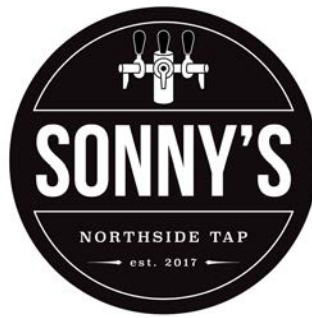
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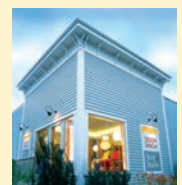
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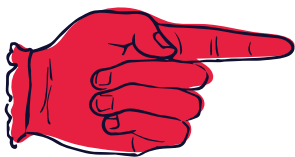
histrionic theatrics, the role of the audience, the role of art.”

This spirit of questioning and demolishing boundaries between audience and performer—as well as art and everyday life—perfectly aligns with the goals of the Witching Hour festival, which draws the audience into the creative process through exploring new work.

During the festival, Mottel and Shea will bring their ruckus for the Iowa City premiere of *Endgame of*

*the Anthropocene*, Talibam!’s multimedia performance piece. It’s based on their brand new album of the same name, out Sept. 22 on the venerable free jazz and experimental music label ESP-DISK (released jointly with Talibam’s equally excellent *Hard Vibe* LP, which features an expanded lineup performing psych-jazz over a minimalist rhythmic pulse).

*Anthropocene* is their most labor-intensive recording yet, with Mottel playing Mini Moog, MIDI synths and a variety of synth keyboards while Shea provides syncopation



### Prairie Pop

## Soundtrack to the Apocalypse

Talibam! brings their ruckus to Witching Hour. • BY KEMBREW MCLEOD

Musicians Kevin Shea and Matthew Mottel dubbed themselves Talibam! because it was the most unhip name they could think of, especially compared to the then-current new crop of Brooklyn groups like Dirty Projectors and Grizzly Bear—whose names read like impressionistic hipster word association games. It was an attempt, keyboardist Mottel said, to suggest “an alternative political vision, which was matched by our cultural determination to provide an alternative to the landscape of music and performance we were surrounded by.”

The name Talibam! was appropriated from a sensationalistic *New York Post* headline that celebrated the beginning of the U.S. bombing campaign in Afghanistan, after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Disgusted by the nation’s bloody militarism and foreign policy, Mottel

and drummer Shea formed this New York City-based unit within six months after the beginning of the second war in Iraq.

**“To me, [New York City] had a responsibility to actually assist in creating a diverse and sustainable economic system for the creative culture they cannibalize.”**

**—Matthew Mottel**

“Talibam! has been interested in a process of questioning since we first started in 2003,” Shea added. “Questioning the event, the stage, the purpose of a band, the expectations of a particular instrument in the ensemble, the goals behind needing to be accepted,

with polyrhythmic electronic drum and synth pads, creating a dizzying, cinematic album of “through-composed ecogothic geosonics.” Put more crudely, *Anthropocene* is a kind of instrumental concept record about the expiration of the Antarctic Treaty System in

**Witching Hour: Talibam! Presents 'Endgame of the Anthropocene'** Passes and more information at [witchinghourfestival.com](http://witchinghourfestival.com).



2048, which currently allows that continent to be shared by the Earth's nations. In the face of catastrophic climate change, Talibam! predicts, a global war will erupt over control over its valuable resources.

"If you look at the titles to all of our records from '07 onward, we have consciously titled them with relationship to the political and cultural world," Mottel said. "*Endgame of the Anthropocene* is no different, in that we have an interest to confront the current establishment of culture and suggest an alternative, or at least have a dialogue."

At Witching Hour, they will bring their dystopian (though quite possible) scenario to audiovisual life. Shea referred to their performance, which premiered at the Twenty-seventh Annual Festival with no fancy name, Part Two (or B), from Phill Niblock's Experimental Intermedia, in March 2017, as an "instrumental soundtrack to an imaginary apocalyptic video game." Because they are currently not able to reproduce the album's complex music live onstage, they became more interested in the record functioning as the soundtrack to a film that they will embellish with their own live instrumentation during the performance.

Sadly, Talibam! have more opportunities to perform outside of New York than in the city they call home, largely because of the economics of rising real estate prices. This led to the closing of venues like Tonic, which was a hub of experimental music in downtown Manhattan during the late 1990s and early 2000s.

"The late '90s," Mottel said, "to me was the last era of commercial enterprises that could exist without the day to day stress of economics."

The scene then shifted to Brooklyn, which has since experienced a similar dynamic—embodied by Vice Media's acquisition of a building in Williamsburg, Brooklyn that was aided by generous city tax breaks. This

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**PRESENTATIONS:** Tymika Lawrence presents *Kaleidoscope: A Decolonization*; Tameka Norris presents *Somewhere Is Here: Sumter County, Alabama*; Tom Tomorrow (*This Modern World*) presents *25 Years of Tomorrow*; Tameka Cage Conley presents *Freedom is a Feeling in the Tongue*; Cey Adams presents *Def Jam and Beyond*; Paulina Mena presents *Honey & Mass Extinction: What every Iowan should know about the state's bee population*; Susan Patterson Plank (*Iowa Newspaper Association*) presents *Local Media: Rising from the Dead?*; Will Hunt presents *The Burrowers*

**READINGS:** Danex Smith; *It Devours*; Joseph Fink & Jeffrey Cranor (*Welcome to Night Vale*); Kiese Laymon; *Writers of Color Reading Series*; Baynard Woods

**SCREENINGS:** *Brimstone & Glory*; *Adam's Run: A video opera by Baltimore's Rhymes with Opera*; #ToTheTop: *Two Iowa Designers Crash NYC Fashion Week*; *Empowering the Next Generation to Flourish*; *Reimagining early elementary education (Janet Hilary and Chuck Peters)*

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resulted in the eviction of DIY music venues like Death By Audio and other staples of the Brooklyn experimental performance landscape. Talibam! responded in 2015 with a protest that paid homage to the 1967 attempt to levitate the Pentagon (during an antiwar rally organized in part by their spiritual father, Ed Sanders, a Yippie activist and frontman of the Fugs).

Talibam! and a couple dozen other provocateurs attempted to levitate the Vice Media headquarters into the East River. According to the social media post that announced the event, “Spirits of the Displaced and dormant creative energies underneath the foundation of Vice Media’s HQ will be unleashed, once the building levitates into the East River & a creative re-flowering of the Williamsburg Waterfront Communities will generate.”

“The Vice levitation was not so much a response to the immediacy of the music venues that were closing as a result of the Vice office move, but more of the tandem collaboration between New York City supporting and subsidizing Vice’s move with a \$6.5 million tax break,” Mottel said. “To me, they had a responsibility to actually assist in creating a diverse and sustainable economic system for the creative culture they cannibalize.”

“The meaning of the Vice building levitation was obviously metaphorical,” Shea added, “and because of this it was conspicuously ripe with contradictions. The industrial Williamsburg of the ’80s was by no means a safe haven for its residents, but rather an area in flux and rife with gang violence. Cities are always going to be in flux, and real estate decisions are mightier than the experimental music community. The ultimate meditation of the levitation was one on recurrent human greed—1960s greed refurbished in new clothes. *Endgame of the Anthropocene* is also about human greed. Highlighting human greed won’t change anything, so instead it is more of a dark comedy, something to listen to while it all burns down in front of our eyes, even as we toil and struggle to perpetuate positive change to lesser or greater degrees.”

LV/

*Kembrew McLeod’s endgame involves live chickens, aluminum foil, luffa sponges and kerosene.*



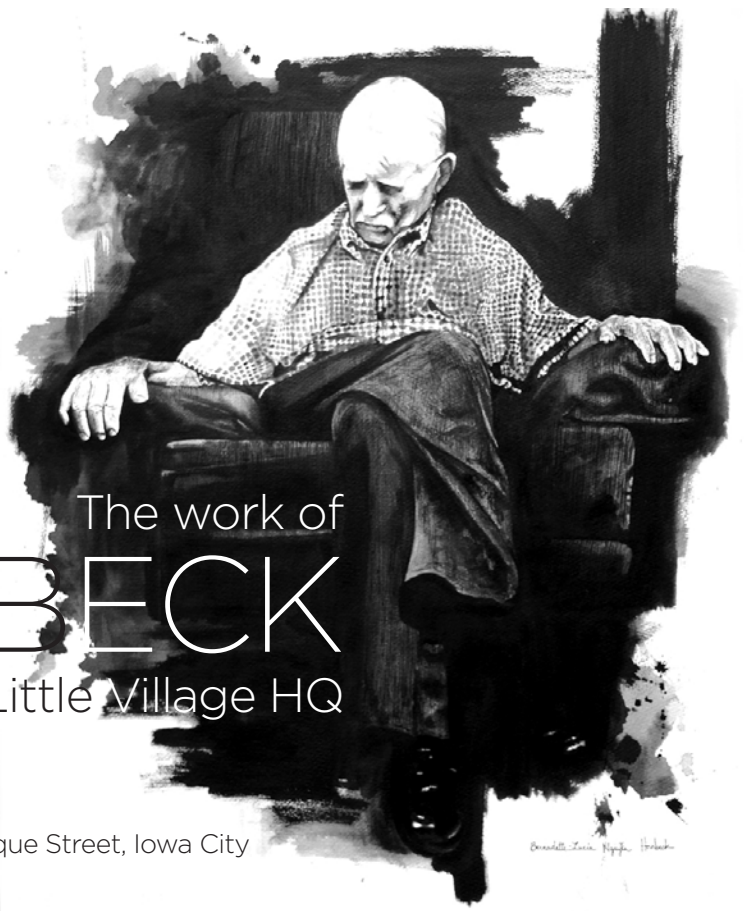
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## A-List

# Film's Folk Hero

Review: *Saving Brinton* reveals passion for storytelling with Iowa roots.

BY LEAH VONDERHEIDE

Surrounded by his personal trove of bygone curiosities and the projected images of people who lived over a century ago, Mike Zahs announces to an audience at the State Theatre in Washington, Iowa, “We have tried to do things very authentically, and I know that doesn’t really interest anybody but me.”

Zahs does not consider himself a historian, or even a collector. Rather he refers to himself and his grandfathers before him as “savers.” *Saving Brinton* documents Zahs’ efforts “to get people excited” about the hundred-year-old nitrate film collection of W. Frank and Indiana Brinton, an Iowa couple that toured the mid-United States from the 1890s through the early 1900s with a magic lantern and hand-crank film projector.

Setting up in small towns from Minnesota to Texas, the Brintons’ traveling cinema show was for most Midwesterners of the era a first encounter with moving images. The Brintons’ collection had films from all over the globe, including the Middle East, Europe and Southeast Asia. In this way, the Brintons’

show was not only an introduction to new technology, but also a window to far-off peoples and places around the world.

Unfortunately, in 1919, seemingly at the height of the traveling show’s popularity, Frank Brinton passed away. When his wife died in 1955, her estate’s executor moved the collection to his basement—where it

**The film is like a series of nesting dolls of heartland spirit.**

remained until Zahs learned of its existence in 1981. For over 30 years, Zahs not only kept the films in the cool, dark space of his backyard shed, he also sought out enthusiasts who might share in his excitement for these artifacts of early film history.

As film historians know all too well, only a

small percentage of silent films still exist. By one estimate, approximately 90 percent of all American silent films made before 1929 are considered lost films. When Zahs finally got people excited, it was ultimately historians, academics and archivists from Humanities Iowa and the University of Iowa Libraries’ Special Collections, as well as UI Emeritus Professor of Film Studies Rick Altman, and French film historian Serge Bromberg, who, upon seeing a George Méliès short from the Brinton collection, which was previously thought lost, exclaims, “I need a drink—and believe me, not water.”

Despite the onscreen fervor of cinéphiles such as Altman and Bromberg, filmmakers Tommy Haines, John Richard and Andrew Sherburne present Zahs’ journey in the restrained manner of observational documentarians. Interspersed with carefully composed and sumptuously shot scenes of Iowa farmland (shown both snow-covered in winter and sun-drenched in summer) and small-town main streets and storefronts,

there is a distinct cinéma-verité approach to Zahs as a subject.

You might even flash back to the Maysles brothers’ *Grey Gardens* when Zahs first leads the filmmakers through his home and into the “Brinton room” that can barely contain the innumerable overflowing boxes of artifacts



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## Sept. 20–Oct. 3, 2017

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AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY FILMSCENE

## CINEMA

### *Saving Brinton* Barnstorming

**Brinton Tour FilmScene,**

**Sept. 29–Oct. 5, \$6.50-9**

**Still from *Saving Brinton***

associated with the film collection. Even Zahs expresses apprehension at revealing the material reality of his passion project: “No other living people have been in this room. And I don’t know why I’m doing it.”

Further expressing the paradox of his situation, he adds: “I know what these pictures are going to look like. They’re going to look like who I am ... and it’s gonna look like I’m one of those obsessive people, or something.”

Zahs’ penchant for all things “authentic,” “original” and “unique” might seem ironic given that the invention of the photographic image is the very technology that prompted Walter Benjamin in 1935 to declare dead the “aura” of a work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction. That is, what value could an original filmstrip have—compared, for example, to an original painting—if it is, and is designed to be, so readily reproduced?

But of course, Jacques Derrida’s 1995 *Archive Fever* theorizes what so many of us feel instinctively: Modern obsessions with the archive are born of a desire

### 9/20

**GAHC x Rozztox: ‘The Bloom of Yesterday,’** *Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 6 p.m., Free*

**New Release Films: ‘Lost In Paris,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**New Release Films: ‘A Ghost Story,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 & 8 p.m.*

**New Release Films: ‘Endless Poetry,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m.*

### 9/21

**New Release Films: ‘Lost In Paris,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 4 & 8:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**New Release Films: ‘A Ghost Story,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 5:30 & 8 p.m.*

**New Release Films: ‘Endless Poetry,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 p.m.*

### 9/22

**‘Matilda,’** *Iowa City Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

### 9/23

**365 Horror Films x Factory of Fear: A Tribute to George Romero,** *Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 7 p.m., Free*

**Bijou After Hours: ‘Alien,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., \$5*

### 9/24

**Art House Theater Day: ‘Revolutionary Rhymes,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

**Art House Theater Day: ‘Tuticut Follies,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$6.50-7.50*

**Sunday Fun Day: ‘Where The Wild Things Are,’** *Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m., Free*

**Art House Theater Day: ‘Menashe,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 2:30 p.m., \$6.50-7.50*

**Art House Theater Day: ‘Whose Streets?,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$6.50-7.50*

**Art House Theater Day: ‘Lucky,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

### 9/26

**Marquis Series Presents Alloy Orchestra: ‘The Lost World,’** *Coe College Sinclair Auditorium, 7:30 p.m., \$10-15*

### 9/27

**Alloy Orchestra Presents: ‘A Page of Madness,’** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$15-25*

### 9/28

**Intellectual Freedom Festival: Preschool Storytime—IFF Short Film Festival,** *Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free*

**All Senses Festival Presents: Cinema at the Figge featuring ‘Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell,’** *Figge Art Museum, Davenport, 5 p.m., Free-\$30*

### 9/29

**‘Saving Brinton,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 1 & 6 p.m., \$6.50-9*  
**‘The Great Mouse Detective,’** *Iowa City Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

### 9/30

**‘Saving Brinton,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 1 & 6 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**All Senses Festival Presents: Feature and Short Film Screenings from En Media Res,** *Rozz-Tox Green Space, Rock Island, 7:30 p.m., Free-\$30*

### 10/1

**‘Saving Brinton,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 1 & 6 p.m., \$6.50-9*  
**Rooftop: ‘9 to 5,’** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$14*



Still from *Saving Brinton*

to “return to the authentic and singular origin”—due in part to the very reproducibility of contemporary culture that allegedly devalued the aura of art in the first place.

Zahs is in good hands with fellow Iowans Haines, Richard and Sherburne.

“I’m a bit of a minimalist, so I don’t share Mike’s archivist instincts,” Sherburne told me. “But I do love history, so I appreciate his dedication to saving for the rest of us. Mike and Frank also share quite a bit. Most of all a love of storytelling. That’s where we all come together, in our different ways—searching for that great story and finding an audience.”

The film’s fly-on-the-wall footage doesn’t expose an obsessive; rather it reveals a generous and genuine folk hero who sincerely believes that the past is worth saving if only for the sake of the future—even when we don’t yet know what that future might hold.

*Saving Brinton* began its tour of Iowa on Sept. 17 at the State Theatre in Washington, where Frank Brinton first showed his films in 1897. The filmmakers say it’s a thrill to trace Brinton’s footsteps across the state. Richard added, “Going from town to town with a show is an old tradition that the Brintons and our group are now a part of. People love to

get together to hear a story and see things they have never seen before and that is an important part of filmmaking to me.”

For those of us with ties to Iowa, *Saving Brinton* offers yet another reason to feel proud of the Hawkeye State—and not just because the State Theatre is now officially the longest continuously running movie theater in the world. The film is like a series of nesting dolls of heartland spirit, telling first the story of the Brintons, who offered many Americans their only glimpse of life outside the Midwest; then of Zahs, who preserved the Brintons’ lifework so that he might in turn share their vision with future generations; and finally of Haines, Richard and Sherburne, whose film, in both form and style, reflects the unassuming perseverance of the Iowans who came before them, and a renewed dedication to sharing stories through the magic of cinema. LV /

*Leah Vonderheide is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Cinematic Arts at the University of Iowa. She loves films old and new.*

# HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR 2017

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**Olate Dogs Rgw Englert Theatre, Iowa City, Tuesday, Oct. 3, 7 p.m., \$25-50** Olate patriarch Richard has been training dogs since childhood, when he taught tricks to stray dogs he rescued from the streets near his home in Santiago, Chile. In the late '80s, he and his brother Jose brought the show to the U.S. In 2012, the family act—then consisting of Richard; his wife, Rebecca; and their youngest son, Nicholas—catapulted to stardom with a win on *America's Got Talent*. The winning act included walking, backflips and a wheelbarrow trick with one dog walking on its hind legs holding the hind legs of and “pushing” another walking on its front legs. The Olates are steadfast supporters of rescue pets and pet adoption, filming a short in 2014 called *Le Sauvetage (The Rescue)*, part of the #RescueFilm series. Photo from Instagram

AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY FILMSCENE

## THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

### 9/20

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

### 9/21

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$10-15

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

### 9/22

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 & 10 p.m., \$10-15

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40

'Peter and the Starcatcher,' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$12-27

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50-31

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'On The Verge,' Public Space One, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$11-19

BT w/ Jay-Harris, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20

SPT Theatre: 'Tales from the Writers' Room—1st & 10,' Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-25

### 9/23

'James and the Giant Peach,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., \$10

Sweet 16—16th Anniversary Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., \$5-10

'Peter and the Starcatcher,' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$12-27

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'On The Verge,' Public Space One, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Pay What You Can-\$13

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$11-19

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50-31

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 & 10 p.m., \$10-15

BT w/ Jay-Harris, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20

Great Ghost Stories: 'Haunted,' Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$20

SPT Theatre: 'Tales from the Writers' Room—1st & 10,' Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-25

### 9/24

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 2 p.m., \$11-19

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$12-30

# THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

'Peter and the Starcatcher,' Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 2 p.m., \$12-27

Burlesque Basics w/ Auralie Wilde—Session 1/5, RADinc., Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$90/course

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$31-40

'Ole & Lena at the State Fair,' Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$24

## 9/26

Special Event: Cindy Kaza—Medium, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-22.50

## 9/27

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

## 9/28

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

Murder Mystery Dinner: 'The Hitchcock Homicide,' Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., \$50

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$10-15

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Flip FabriQue: 'Catch Me!,' Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-30

## 9/29

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'On The Verge,' Public Space One, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 & 10 p.m., \$10-15

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50-31

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$11-19

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40

Stoney LaRue, First Avenue Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$18

## 9/30

'James and the Giant Peach,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 1 p.m., \$10

Studio Improv, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 & 10 p.m., \$10-15

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$11-19

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$19.50-31

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40

Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'On The Verge,' Public Space One, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-13

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$12-30

Let's Do This Comedy Show, with Josh Novey, Sophia Smarandescu, Dustin Lee, Hadley Galbraith, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$5

## 10/1

'Footloose,' Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$19.50-31

'Mame,' Iowa City Community Theatre, 2 p.m., \$11-19

Sunday Fun Day: October Improv presents 'Caps for Sale' for Grades K-2, Iowa City Public Library, 2 p.m., Free

Burlesque Basics w/ Auralie Wilde—Session 2/5, RADinc., Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$90/course

'Bakersfield Mist,' Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$12-30

'Grease,' Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$31-40

## 10/3

Olate Dogs: Winners of America's Got Talent, The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$25-50



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# LITERATURE

**9/20**

**Bennett Sims**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**9/20**

**Jenny Zhang**, *Perrine Galley of Stewart Memorial Library on the Coe College, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m., Free*

**9/21**

**Intellectual Freedom Festival: Preschool Storytime: Banned Books!**, *Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free*

**Jenny Zhang**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**9/22**

**Craig Johnson**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

▼ **9/24**

**Intellectual Freedom Festival: Brooke Gladstone**, *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 2 p.m., Free*

**IWP Reading: Enza García Arreaza, Anne Kennedy**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free*

**9/26**

**Ariel Gore**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**9/27**

**Intellectual Freedom Festival: Political Poems—The Power of Words**, *Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free*

**Rosanna Warren**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**9/28**

**The Iowa Review**, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**9/29**

**Developing Your Story in Depth with Jennifer Fawcett**, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$235-265/course*  
**All Senses Festival Presents: Kamden Ishmael Hilliard, Keith Lesmeister, Anders Carlson-Wee**, *Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 6 p.m., \$15-30*

**9/30**

**Developing Your Story in Depth with Jennifer Fawcett**, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$235-265/course*  
**All Senses Festival Presents: Matthew Guenette, Matt Hart, Holly Norton, Rachel Yoder, Abigail Zimmer**, *Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 6 p.m., \$15-30*

**10/1**

**Developing Your Story in Depth with Jennifer Fawcett**, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$235-265/course*



**Intellectual Freedom Festival Presents: Brooke Gladstone Englert Theatre, Iowa City, Sunday, Sept. 24, 2 p.m., Free**

The Iowa City Public Library established the Carol Spaziani Intellectual Freedom Festival in 1995, to honor longtime library employee Spaziani's commitment to the ideal of the freedom of ideas. The events of the festival fall in and around the American Library Association's Banned Books Week (Sept. 24-30). This year, the festival features Brooke Gladstone, co-host (with Bob Garfield) of *On the Media*, from National Public Radio station WNYC in New York City. Gladstone, whose book *The Trouble with Reality* was published in May of this year, will present on fake news and the media, in conversation with Lyle Muller of IowaWatch.



**Coolzey, w/ Schaffer the Darklord, Kamil Kardashian Iowa City Yacht Club, Wednesday, Sept.**

**27, 9 p.m., \$7** Rapper Coolzey is an Iowa native (and current left coast-er) with deep ties here still. He was seen recently at the inaugural Grey Area festival, and Public School Records, Coolzey's label with Iowa City's Jason Hennesy, is going strong with varied releases from hip hop to art pop to punk. Coolzey is back in his home state again this month, bringing his nerdcore posse to the Yacht Club for a midweek set as part of their Heartland Horrorshow II: Blood Country tour. Coolzey is accompanied on this romp by New York's Schaffer the Darklord and Iowa City's Kamil Kardashian. Video still from 'Glasses'

## 9/23

**Art of Percussion Family Workshop,** Figge Art Museum, Davenport, 10 a.m., \$3-15  
**Red Cedar Chamber Music,** Springville Library, 1 p.m., Free  
**The Bernemann Brothers (Home Football Game),** Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free  
**12th Annual Zombie March Afterparty w/ Flannel Season, Hunter Dumped Us Here, Wylde Nept,** The Mill, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free-\$10  
**Insane Clown Posse 'The Great Milenko' 20 Year Tour w/ R.A. the Rugged Man, Lyte,** Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$30-35  
**The Cerny Brothers,** Daytrotter, Davenport, 8 p.m., \$10-12  
**Showcase Chamber: Trapèze,** Opus Concert Cafe, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$10-25  
**Mandolin Orange,** The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$20  
**The Ramblers,** Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Marion, 8 p.m., Free  
**Wild Belle w/ Fred Thomas,** Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$15-17  
**Elizabeth Moen w/ Amelia & Melina, Nikki Young,** Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5  
**FMWT Vol. 2, Edition #5: Diane Cluck w/ Liv Carrow,** Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5-7

## MUSIC AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY FILMSCENE

### 9/20

**Music on Wednesdays: Samuel Locke Ward,** Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free  
**Haunted Windchimes,** Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$15-18

### 9/21

**Midwife w/ Archeress, Croatiens, Rozz-Tox,** Rock Island, 7 p.m., \$5-10  
**Lucero w/ Matthew Logan Vasquez,** Codfish Hollow Barnstormers, Maquoketa, 8 p.m., \$25-30  
**An Evening with Davina & The Vagabonds,** The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$12-15  
**Katy Guillen & The Girls w/ Ginstrings,** Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$7  
**Sub Conscious Productions Presents: Crywolf,** Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-65

**FMWT Vol. 2, Ed #4 & TBC Present: Mdou Moctar w/ Thee Chocolate Hog Boys,** Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$13-15

### 9/22

**Dogs on Skis,** Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free  
**P.O.S F/W 2017 RAP TOUR w/ BLACKIE, AWTHNTKTS,** Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$15-18  
**Northern Parallels 11: Sassmouth w/ Mike Derer, Higgy,** Figge Art Museum, Davenport, 7 p.m., \$5  
**Showcase Chamber: Trapèze,** Opus Concert Cafe, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$10-25  
**The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, Hancher,** Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-75  
**Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybears w/ Hannah Wicklund & The Steppin Stones, Lightnin' Malcolm,** Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$15

**Pokey LaFarge w/ Esther Rose,** The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$22-25

**Elizabeth Moen w/ Drew Hurn,** Dick's Tap and Shake, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**Dana T (5 yrs) w/ Cocordion, Collidescope,** Austin Mooney, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., \$5

**Ben Miller Band,** Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free

**The Maytags w/ Goosetown,** Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5  
**Patrick Sweany w/ Highland Falls,** Boat Motor, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$10

**DJ KONFLIKT, EDEN Lounge & Nightclub,** Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free

### 9/24

**Concert Across America to End Gun Violence,** Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 1:30 p.m., \$6-15  
**Showcase Chamber: Trapèze,** Old Capitol Senate Chamber, 2:30 p.m., \$10-25  
**Nic Arp,** Sutliff Cider Company, Lisbon, 3 p.m., Free  
**The Birthday Massacre w/ Switchblade Saturdays,** Wooly's, Des Moines, 6:30 p.m., \$25-30  
**David Dondero & Doug Nye,** Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$5-7  
**John McCutcheon,** Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$19-23  
**Suzzy & Lucy Wainwright Roche,** Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$20  
**Diane Cluck w/ Liv Carrow,** Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 8 p.m., \$5-10

**Evolfo w/ Julia Kahn Band**, *Gabe's*,  
Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free

## 9/25

**Copper Smoke Trials**, **The Push** and  
**Rachael Beringer**, *Octopus College*  
*Hill*, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

## 9/26

**Red Cedar Chamber Music**, *Iowa City*  
*Senior Center*, 2 p.m., Free

**TAUK w/ Earphorik Doors**, *Wooly's*, *Des*  
*Moines*, 8 p.m., \$15-17

## 9/27

**Coolzey w/ Schaffer the Darklord**, **Kamil**  
**Kardashian**, *Iowa City Yacht Club*, 9  
p.m., \$7

**Red Cedar Chamber Music**, *Marion*  
*City Hall*, 12 p.m., Free

**Suzzy Roche & Lucy Wainwright**  
**Roche**, *Legion Arts CSPA Hall*, Cedar  
Rapids, 7 p.m., \$17-21

**Koch Marshall Trio**, *Opus Concert*  
*Cafe*, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m.,  
\$17-52

**The Melvins w/ Spotlights**, *Wooly's*,  
*Des Moines*, 8 p.m., \$20

**El Ten Eleven**, *Gabe's*, *Iowa City*, 9  
p.m., \$12-15

## 9/28

**Red Cedar Chamber Music**, *Kirkwood*  
*Community College Ballantyne*  
*Auditorium*, Cedar Rapids, 11:15  
a.m., Free

**The Cantafios**, *Cafe Paradiso*,  
*Fairfield*, 6 p.m., \$5

**Dead Horses**, *Opus Concert Cafe*,  
Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$12

**Highly Suspect w/ Bones**, **DJ**  
**Redbees—SOLD OUT**, *Codfish Hollow*  
*Barnstormers*, *Maquoketa*, 8 p.m.,  
\$25-30

**Eric Mayson w/ DaNCEBUMS**, *The Mill*,  
*Iowa City*, 8 p.m., \$8

**Octopus Salsa Night**, *Octopus College*  
*Hill*, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., Free

**Dead Larry w/ Evening Glow**, *Gabe's*,  
*Iowa City*, 8 p.m., \$10

**Martin Sexton Trio**, *Wooly's*, *Des*  
*Moines*, 9 p.m., \$25-30

## 9/29

**All Senses Festival Presents: Dead**  
**Rider w/ Moss Folk**, **Har-Di-Har**, **Sisters**  
**of Your Sunshine Vapor**, **Mountain**  
**Swallow**, **US Mode**, **Idpyramid**, **Rozz-**  
**Tox**, **Rock Island**, 6 p.m., \$15-30

**The Ramblers**, *Cedar Ridge Distillery*,  
*Swisher*, 6 p.m., Free

**Salute to Women Who Rock: Alisabeth**  
**Von Presley w/ Toxic Blonde**, *Chrome*  
*Horse Saloon*, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m.,  
Free

**Scope: First Annual Battle of the Bands**,  
*Hubbard Park*, *Iowa City*, 6 p.m.,  
Free

**PUP w/ ROAD SODA**, *Inasmuch*, *Village*  
*Theatre*, *Davenport*, 8 p.m., \$10

**BEEs w/ Dave Tamkin**, *Dick's Tap and*  
*Shake*, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**TWINS w/ Matthew James the RBU**,  
**Brian Johannesen**, *Octopus College*  
*Hill*, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

**Cody Hicks**, *Wooly's*, *Des Moines*, 9  
p.m., Free

**The Right Now w/ Diplomats of Solid**  
**Sound**, *The Mill*, *Iowa City*, 9 p.m.,  
\$10

**Ultraviolet Sextet w/ The Westerners**,  
**C.S. Luxem**, *Iowa City Yacht Club*, 9  
p.m., \$6

**That 1 Guy**, *Gabe's*, *Iowa City*, 10  
p.m., \$15

## 9/30

**Red Cedar Chamber Music**, *Lisbon*  
*Public Library*, 11 a.m., Free

**Old Capitol Opera Presents: Opera for**  
**Kids**, *The Mill*, *Iowa City*, 2 p.m.,  
\$5-10

**Red Cedar Chamber Music**, *Hiawatha*  
*Public Library*, 3 p.m., Free

**All Senses Festival Presents: Lyres w/**  
**Plastic Crimewave Syndicate**, **Heavens**  
**Gateway Drugs**, **Bill Makaye**, **Golden**  
**Fleece**, **Vanishing Kids**, **Emilii Earhart**,  
**Brooks Strause**, **Liv Carrow**, **Johnnie**  
**Cluney**, *Rozz-Tox*, *Rock Island*, 3  
p.m., \$15-30

**Swamp Fox Festival: Brass Transit**  
**Authority**, *Klopfenstein Amphitheater*  
*for the Performing Arts*, *Lowe Park*,  
*Marion*, 5:30 p.m., Free

**Saul Lubaroff Jazz Quartet**, *Uptown*  
*Bill's*, *Iowa City*, 7 p.m., \$5

**That 1 Guy**, *Wooly's*, *Des Moines*, 7:30  
p.m., \$15



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Calendar



**Leslie Odom Jr. Hancher, Iowa City, Sunday, Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m., Free** Singer and actor Leslie Odom Jr. returns to Hancher with a free outdoor concert, following his wildly popular lecture/performance in March. Odom, who made his Broadway debut at 17 in *Rent*, rocketed to stardom when he originated the role of Aaron Burr in the runaway success *Hamilton*, a role that earned him a Tony Award for Best Actor in a Musical in 2016. The versatile performer has released two records and takes to the big screen in the new interpretation of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*, in a role last played on film by the equally smooth and dapper Sean Connery.

**Niyaz: 'The Fourth Light Project,' Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-35**

**Terry McCauley, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Marion, 8 p.m., Free**

**Angel Olsen w/ Mount Moriah—SOLD OUT, Codfish Hollow Barnstormers, Maquoketa, 8 p.m., \$20-25**

**Billy Ocean, Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 8 p.m., \$35-55**

**Old Capitol Opera Presents: Opera on Tap, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10**

**Leggy w/ Varsity, Night Pits, The Spider Magnets, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., \$5**

**Stutterin Jimmy & The Goosebumps w/ Other Brothers, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5**

**The Tripp Brothers, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$7**

**Brothers Gow, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$7**

## ▲ 10/1

**Leslie Odom Jr., Hancher, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free**

**Laborspace x Rozztox: Lowland Block Party 02, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 10 a.m., Free**

**Sunday Funday Devin Scott, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 1 p.m., Free**

**Saloonatics, Sutliff Cider Company, Lisbon, 3 p.m., Free**

**Cracker, Wooly's, Des Moines, 7 p.m., \$20-25**

**Michaela Anne, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$15-18**

**(Sandy) Alex G w/ Hovvdy, Crumb, Gabe's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$14-16**

**The Floozies: Funk Jesus Tour 2017 w/ BoomBox, Late Night Radio, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$18-20**

## 10/2

**An Evening with Shovels & Rope—SOLD OUT, Codfish Hollow Barnstormers, Maquoketa, 8 p.m., \$25-30**

**The Mike Dillon Band, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$10**

## 10/3

**Red Cedar Chamber Music at Colloton Pavilion, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, 12 p.m., Free**

**Martin Sexton, Legion Arts CSPPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$25-30**

**Ambersmoke, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 8 p.m., Free**

**Lilly Hiatt, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free**

**Sub Conscious Productions Presents: Moon Hooch w/ Lavender Fields, Jackson Whalan, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-15**

# COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

## 9/20

**Pecha Kucha Night Cedar Rapids, Vol. 2, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free**

**Iowa Ideas: Alec Ross, Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$15-50**

## 9/21

**Brucemore Hired Help Tour, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$10-20**

## 9/22

**Joni Ernst Town Hall, Iowa Memorial Union, Iowa City, 2:30 p.m., Free**

**Queer Thrift Shop Pop Up, RADinc., Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free**

## 9/23

**The Unique 2 Alley Fashion Show Presented by Born Leaders United, Downtown Pedestrian Mall, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10**

**12th Annual Iowa City Zombie March: 80s Graduation!, Happy Hollow Park, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free**

## 9/24

**LULAC Presents: Loteria Night, The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5**

## 9/25 ▶

**Lisa Lucas: 'The Green Room,' The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free**

## 9/27

**Introduction to Incubating Chicken Eggs, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$10-12**

**My Train to Freedom: A Jewish Boy's Journey from Nazi Europe to a Life of Activism, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free**

## 9/28

**Brucemore Hired Help Tour, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$10-20**

## 9/29

**Oktoberfest, Amana Colonies, 12 p.m., Free**

**Hitchhiker's Guide to ICON 42, Cedar Rapids Marriott, 3 p.m., Free-\$100**



# The Green Room Series

**Lisa Lucas Englert Theatre, Iowa City, Monday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.** Lisa Lucas will anchor a night that focuses on literature and its unique role in shaping homes that wonder about the mysterious and tolerate differences. As an added bonus, Kiese Laymon will provide a reading before her lecture.

In 2016, Lucas became the executive director of the National Book Foundation, which presents the National Book Awards, honoring literature the way that the Oscars honor achievements in film. Her task is promoting the visibility of the organization and the National Book Awards as a means of fostering a literature more reflective of contemporary readers. Fusing her love of reading with her background working for the Tribeca Film Festival, Chicago's Steppenwolf Theater and as publisher of *Guernica*, Lucas works to cultivate a community of readers.

Lucas' passion for promoting reading frames how she sees her role as someone who serves as the face and voice of reading and literature in the United States. While Lucas remains mindful of her status representing a kind of audience—young, black, female—that

often is overlooked, she finds that her role involves expanding opportunities for individuals to see themselves as part of a community of readers and to promote the quality of community that emerges at the nexus of readers, writers and publishers.

**Khizr Khan Englert Theatre, Iowa City, Monday, Oct. 2, 7 p.m.** The topic of democracy has become more pronounced as the nature of the institution—at least in its American context—seems imperiled. Khizr Khan, born in Pakistan but resident in America since 1980, embodies much of what democracy in its best sense means.

He has an immigrant's appreciation of the law and the virtues of American society that those born here sometimes forget. He speaks from a perspective that has remained a familiar part of American life: that of a grieving parent who lost a son in the ser-

vice of his country. Finally, he speaks as someone aware of the importance of the necessity of criticism in a flourishing democratic society—as the world recognized, when he spoke against Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump at the 2016 Democratic National Convention, a topic that has continued to evolve to include the recent controversies over DACA and “the Dreamers.”

His talk, “Status of Our Democracy and Civil Liberties Today,” is sure to address our contemporary political climate through criticisms that reflect a patriotic passion for democracy. Khan will speak following a special performance by Iris DeMent.

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**Livestream each class on [facebook.com/littlevillagemag](https://www.facebook.com/littlevillagemag)**

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Video still of Khizr Khan from *PBS NewsHour*

## 9/30

**Cedar Rapids Walk to End Alzheimer's**, McGrath Amphitheatre, 8:30 a.m., Free

**Oktoberfest**, Amana Colonies, 9 a.m., Free

**Hitchhiker's Guide to ICON 42**, Cedar Rapids Marriott, 9 a.m., Free-\$100

**Swamp Fox Festival: Parade**, Downtown Marion, 9:30 a.m., Free

**Swamp Fox Festival: Fireworks**, Lowe Park, 8:30 p.m., Free

## 10/1

**Hitchhiker's Guide to ICON 42**, Cedar Rapids Marriott, 9 a.m., Free-\$100

**Swamp Fox Festival: Car Cruise-In & Car Show**, Thomas Park, Marion, 9:30 a.m., Free

**Oktoberfest**, Amana Colonies, 10 a.m., Free

**Walking In Mindfulness Silent Meditative Walk**, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 3 p.m., \$4-6

**All Senses Festival Presents: Lowland Block Party**, Rozz-Tox & Labor Space Courtyard, Rock Island, 10 a.m., Free

## ▲ 10/2

**Khizr Khan: 'The Green Room'**, The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

**Inconceivable! Movie Trivia Night**, FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$40

## 10/3

**Full Moon Yoga Series: Beginner's Yoga Accompanied by Indigenous Wooden Flute Artist**, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$20

## 9/20

**Drink and Draw Cacti w/ Julie Staub, KCoPear, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$30**

**Screen Printing 101—Session 1/3, Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 6 p.m., \$105/course**

**Knitting: Marley Shawl—Session 3/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$45/course**

## 9/21

**Jazon Lea Tie-Dye**

**Classes—Session 2/2, Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 5 p.m., \$65/course**

**Knitting: Mitten Advent Calendar—Session 1/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$50/course**

**Sheep to Yarn, on the Cheap—Session 2/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$145/course**

## 9/22

**Knitting: Knit 101, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$30**

**Henna Design Fridays with Mathany Bederelddin, KCoPear, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$15-30**

**Flower Power: Glass Flower Disks, Beadology, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$88**

**Craft Party: Freeform Patchwork Zip Pouch or Drawstring Bag—Session 1/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$45/course**

## 9/23

**Opening Reception/ Gallery Talk: Pascale Monnin—"The Birth of the Hummingbird and Other Marvels," Waterloo Center for the Arts, 6:30 p.m., Free**

**Wine & Design: Succulent Garden Centerpiece, Moss, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$85**

## 9/24

**Sewing: Linden Sweatshirt, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$60**

**Soldering Sampler, Beadology, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$98**

## 9/25

**Knitting: Mae Sweater—Session 1/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$45/course**

## 9/26

**Domed Crescent Beaded Bead through Kirkwood Community College, Beadology, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$58**

**School of Sewing Part I—Session 4/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$85/course**

**Hands-on: Pumpkin Artistry and Etching—From Logos to Portraits w/ New Pi's Miriam Alarcon-Avila, New Pioneer Food Co-op, Coralville, 6 p.m., \$30**

## 9/27

**Sewing: West Water Tunic—Session 1/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$55/course**

**Wednesday Wine Night: Painting Fall Leaves, KCoPear, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$30**

**Screen Printing 101—Session 2/3, Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 6 p.m., \$105/course**

## 9/28

**Knitting: Mitten Advent Calendar—Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$50/course**

**Wine & Design: Plant Party—SOLD OUT, Moss, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$10**

**Sheep to Yarn, on the Cheap—Session 3/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$145/course**

## 9/29

**Henna Design Fridays, KCoPear, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$15-30**

**Knitting: Knit 101, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$30**

**Craft Party: Freeform Patchwork Zip Pouch or Drawstring Bag—Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$45/course**

# READER PERKS

[LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM/PERKS](http://LITTLEVILLAGEMAG.COM/PERKS)



# SPORT

## 9/30

**Kid's Crafting: Painting Bones, KCoPear, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$15-20**  
**Bojangles Bracelet, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$88**

## 10/1

**Fundamentals of Metal Working: Copper and Brass Pendant, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$128**

## 10/3

**Sewing: Matcha Top—Session 1/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$60/course**  
**Epic Relief: Intro to Relief Printing, Start to Finish, Public Space One, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$145**

## 9/22

**Iowa City West Homecoming Game vs Prairie, West High, Iowa City, 7:15 p.m.**  
**City High Homecoming vs Clinton, Bates Field, Iowa City, 5 p.m.**

## 9/23

**IC Bruisers Back to School Brawl Triple Header Home Season Opener, Scanlon Gymnasium at Mercer Aquatic Center, Iowa City, 3 p.m., \$5-8**  
**University of Iowa vs Penn State, Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$95**

## 9/28

**Kennedy High School Homecoming Game vs Linn-Mar, Kingston Stadium, Cedar Rapids, 7:15 p.m.**  
**Charmayne James Barrel Racing Clinic—Session 1/3, Iowa Equestrian Center Kirkwood, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$595/course**

## 9/29

**Charmayne James Barrel Racing Clinic—Session 2/3, Iowa Equestrian Center Kirkwood, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., \$595/course**  
**The Glow Run, McGrath Amphitheatre, Cedar Rapids, 7:45 p.m., \$29.99-60**

## 9/30

**Swamp Fox Festival: Swamp Fox 5k and Little Fox Mile, Marion City Hall, 7:30 a.m., \$25**  
**Timber Trek, Amana Colonies RV Park & Event Center, Amana, 2 p.m., \$35**

## 10/1

**GranGABLE Bike Ride, Terry Trueblood Lodge, Iowa City, 7 a.m., \$60-70**

**Charmayne James Barrel Racing Clinic—Session 3/3, Iowa Equestrian Center Kirkwood, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., \$595/course**  
**Especially for You Race, Hall-Perrine Cancer Center, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., \$20-35**

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# FOOD & DRINK

**9/21**

**Farm To Table Dinner w/ Cobble Hill**, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$125

**Third Thursday Public Tasting Party**, Harvest Oil & Vinegar, Coralville, 6 p.m., Free

**9/22** ▶

**Wild Food Tasting ft. The Awful Purdies**, Old Brick, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$15

**9/30**

**Iowa City SodaFest**, Northside Marketplace, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$5

**Northside Oktoberfest**, Northside Marketplace, Iowa City, 11 a.m., \$45-55

**Big Grove Tap Takeover**, Atlas, Iowa City, 3 p.m.

**Swamp Fox Festival: Seed Saving Workshop**, Lowe Park Demonstration Gardens, Marion, 4:30 p.m., Free

**Swamp Fox Festival: Tomato, Apple and Pepper Tasting**, Lowe Park Greenhouse, Marion, 5:30 p.m., Free



**Wild Food Tasting w/ music by the Awful Purdies** Old Brick, Iowa City, Friday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m., \$15 The Iowa Master Naturalists, established in 2015 to champion education about Iowa's environment and natural history, presents a tasting experience to celebrate the autumnal equinox, featuring music by the Awful Purdies. The event will offer small portions of over a dozen dishes created from foods that can be found in the wild in Iowa. All proceeds from the tasting will go to support the all-volunteer organization's programming, which includes field trips, bus tours and community classes on such topics as improving the native habitat in your backyard and caring for fruit trees. Photo by Devin Hendrick Photography

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**TWINS**

**SAT 7 | AFTER THE GAME**

**THE LUCKY DUTCH**

**THURS 12 | 8:00PM**

**ERIC PETTIT LION**

**SAT 14 | 8:30PM**

**BETH BOMBARA**

**FRI 20 | 8:30PM**

**FLASH IN A PAN**

**FRI 27 | 8:30PM**

HOME FOOTBALL GAME

**PLASTIC RELATIONS**

**SAT 28 | AFTER THE GAME**

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# ONGOING EVENTS

AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY FILMSCENE

## MONDAYS

**Open Mike**, *The Mill*, Free, 8 p.m.  
**Honeycombs of Comedy**, *Yacht Club*, \$3, 10 p.m.

## TUESDAYS

**Acoustic Music Club**, *River Music Experience*, Free, 4:30 p.m. **Practice in the Prairie: Free Summer Yoga Series**, *Indian Creek Nature Center*, Free, 6 p.m. **Blues Jam**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Underground Open Mic**, *Yacht Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Weekly Old-Timey Jam Session**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe*, Free, 8:30 p.m. **Comedy & Open Mic Night**, *Studio 13*, Free, 9 p.m. **Karaoke Tuesdays**, *The Mill*, Free, 10 p.m.

## WEDNESDAYS

**Food Truck Wednesday**, *NewBo City Market*, 11 a.m. **Late Nights at NCSML**,

*National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library*, 4 p.m. **Iowa City Farmer's Market**, *Chauncey Swan Ramp*, 5 p.m. **Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, *The Mill*, \$5, 6 p.m. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays) **Open Mic Night**, *Penguin's Comedy Club*, Free, 6:30 p.m. **Open Mic**, *Cafe Paradiso*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke Wednesdays**, *Mondo's Saloon*, Free, 10 p.m. **Open Stage**, *Studio 13*, Free 10 p.m. **Open Jam and Mug Night**, *Yacht Club*, Free, 10 p.m. **Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, *Film Scene*, \$4, 10 p.m. **Talk Art**, *The Mill*, Free (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

## THURSDAYS

**I.C. Press Co-op open shop**, *Public Space One*, Free, 4 p.m. **CSA Market**, *NewBo City Market*, 4 p.m. **Meet Me at the Market**, *NewBo City Market*, 5 p.m. **Green Drinks Cedar Valley**, *Octopus*

*College Hill*, Free, 5:30 p.m. **Kids Meditation Class Iowa City**, *Quaker Friends Meeting House*, Free, 5:45 p.m. **Iowa City Meditation Class: How To Transform Your Life**, *Quaker Friends Meeting House*, \$5, 6:30 p.m. **Novel Conversations**, *Coralville Public Library*, Free, 7 p.m. (3rd Thursday) **Thursday Night Live Open Mic**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Daddy-O**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery*, Free, 7 p.m. **Live Jazz**, *Clinton Street Social Club*, Free, 8 p.m. **Karaoke Thursday**, *Studio 13*, Free, 8 p.m. **Gemini Karaoke**, *Blue Moose*, Free, 9 p.m. **Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens**, *Dick's Tap & Shake Room*, Free, 9 p.m.

## FRIDAYS

**Friday Night Out**, *Ceramics Center*, \$40 6:30 p.m. **FAC Dance Party**, *the Union Bar*, 7 p.m. **Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party**, *Studio 13*,

\$5, 8 p.m. **SoulShake**, *Gabe's*, Free, 10 p.m.

## SATURDAYS

**Iowa City Farmer's Market**, *Chauncey Swan Ramp*, 7:30 a.m. **Weekend Brunch**, *Atlas Restaurant*, 8 a.m. **Family Storytime**, *Iowa City Public Library*, Free, 10:30 a.m. **I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop**, *Public Space One*, Free, 12 p.m. **Saturday Night Music**, *Uptown Bill's*, Free, 7 p.m. **Elation Dance Party**, *Studio 13*, \$5, 9 p.m.

## SUNDAYS

**Weekend Brunch**, *Atlas Restaurant*, 8 a.m. **North Liberty Farmers Market**, 11 a.m. **Board Games 'n' Brews**, *The Mill*, 2 p.m. **Pride Bingo**, *Studio 13*, 6:30 p.m. **Pub Quiz**, *The Mill*, \$1, 9 p.m.

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Photo: Jérôme Delapierre

# Niyaz

## *The Fourth Light Project*

Saturday, September 30, 2017, 7:30 pm

Niyaz—known for its contemporary electroacoustic trance music that blends Sufi poetry with folk music from Iran and surrounding countries—embraces the collision of the old and new as a means to create the unique and affecting. The *Huffington Post* calls Niyaz “an evolutionary force in contemporary Middle Eastern music.” The band’s collaboration with visual artist Jérôme Delapierre is another step forward. *The Fourth Light Project* is a multimedia experience, combining live music and sacred dance (a dervish) with advanced projection techniques that respond to sound and music in real time. *The Fourth Light Project* focuses on the life and work of Rabia al-Basri, an eighth-century Muslim saint and the first female Sufi mystic.

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*This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals - Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity, a component of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.*





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# G. Willow Wilson

## *A Superhero for Generation Why*

FREE

Sunday, October 8, 2017, 2:00 pm

*A collaboration with the Iowa City Book Festival; One Community, One Book; and the University of Iowa Lecture Committee*

G. Willow Wilson is a superhero who employs her literary powers to address pressing issues including religious intolerance and gender politics. In fiction, nonfiction, and comics, the American convert to Islam has distinguished herself as a writer of remarkable originality and insight. In her lecture, Wilson uses the challenges Ms. Marvel—a Pakistani-American Muslim teenager—faces as a parallel for the challenges of a misunderstood generation: the millennials. She'll discuss the genesis of Ms. Marvel, her roots in the historical science fiction/fantasy tradition, and the significance of writing a superhero for a millennial (and wider) audience.

Wilson's memoir, *The Butterfly Mosque*, which recounts her life in Egypt during the waning day of the Mubarak regime, is the 2017 selection for the One Community, One Book program sponsored by the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights.

This event is free and unticketed.

Additional support for Wilson's lecture and residency has been provided by the University of Iowa's Writers' Workshop, International Writing Program, and Nonfiction Writing Program and also from Daydreams Comics. The Iowa City Book Festival is a program of the Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature Organization. The UI Center for Human Rights organizes the One Community, One Book program.

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Dear Kiki,  
My husband and I were discussing dick size the other night. I asked if he'd ever measured his size. He said, "Probably; who wouldn't? All I know, though, is at least it's not so big I pass out." "What?" I exclaimed. "Yep, some dudes dicks are so big the blood rush makes them pass out." I am convinced this is an urban myth. Thought you would be more fun to ask than Google!

Love, Cock Curious

Dear Curious,

Well, I can't believe I haven't heard of this before if it is, in fact, possible. So, I asked

Google, but only after I did some very unscientific speculation because that is what makes me fun!

My experience with my own blood pressure makes me think it can happen. Although I do not have a penis, I have had blood rush to and from areas of my body causing me to pass out or get incredibly dizzy. Let me share with you a personal story. After having my second baby, I started noticing that my heart would palpitate while having a bowel movement. I'd feel dizzy and think I was dying. Thankfully, I see my doctor regularly, and I feel comfortable sharing anything with her even when I'm being a complete hypochondriac, which I figured was the case. However, she assured me it could sometimes happen for multiple reasons. One reason is anxiety (with which I am of course diagnosed, so there's that) and another is that when pooping, there are changes in blood flow, which can cause changes in heart rate. Whew. I probably wasn't going to pull an Elvis on the toilet anytime soon.

I imagine when a man is getting aroused and his heart is beating fast, his breathing quick and anxious, that blood engorgement during an erection could be quite a rush. According to [www.thesexmd.com/how-big-is-too-big/](http://www.thesexmd.com/how-big-is-too-big/), "You almost never find a penis so large that a man would pass out when erect.

## Yep, if you have to support a large boner, it might take a toll every now and again.

That would require about a liter of blood to be displaced by his erection alone, and his body would already have accommodated over time by maintaining a larger than average blood volume." I would assume that strict mathematical equation works on a perfect control subject, but add in potential dehydration, anxiety, low blood sugar or a medical condition such as a bent or curved penis, and yep, if you have to support a large boner, it might take a toll every now and again.

Now, if this is happening all the time, whether you have a penis or not, please see a physician. My speculations are just for fun.  
xoxo, Kiki

Dear Kiki,

I've been dating a really wonderful girl for about three months. Things are going great, and we spend almost all our free time together. There's just one problem—she has a really long toe hair. It's just one hair on one toe, but it's a really long hair. So long that it curls around a couple of times. There's no other hair on her feet, and she shaves her legs, so she's got to know it's there. Her skin is really pale, and the hair is dark brown, so there's no way to miss it when she's barefoot. And the first thing

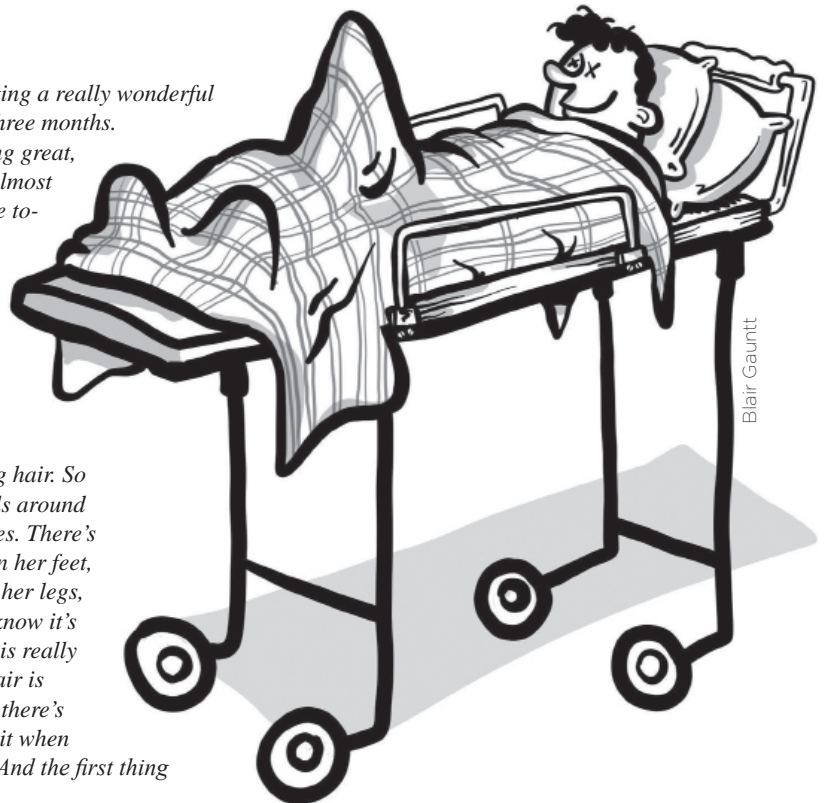
she does when she gets home or enters my apartment is kick off her shoes. I can't help sneaking looks at the hair, but I don't think she's noticed me checking it out. I find myself thinking more and more about the hair and why she doesn't get rid of it. Should I ask her about the hair, or would that make me sound like jerk?

Dear Jerk,

Uhhh, have you ever seen a naked mole rat?

But seriously, my best friend from childhood is one of the hairiest women I know. She knows she's hairy, yet it hasn't stopped the multitude of stares and comments she's received over the years, especially because she has mostly lived her life not shaving or waxing or plucking or threading or etc.

Maybe you have a long ass hair—have you checked lately? xoxo, Kiki LV/



 **KIKI WANTS QUESTIONS!**

Questions about love and sex in the Iowa City-Cedar Rapids area can be submitted to [dearkiki@littlevillagemag.com](mailto:dearkiki@littlevillagemag.com), or anonymously at [littlevillagemag.com/dearkiki](http://littlevillagemag.com/dearkiki). Questions may be edited for clarity and length, and may appear either in print or online at [littlevillagemag.com](http://littlevillagemag.com).



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**Just wondering which country has the loosest free-speech laws. I imagine there has to be one with even fewer limits than the U.S., right? —Velocity, via the Straight Dope Message Board**

The notion of American exceptionalism finds itself on thin ice nowadays, so congrats for locating one element of the ol' national identity, anyway, that remains sui generis: The U.S. constitution is generally regarded as providing the most robust speech protections around. Being unique isn't necessarily a virtue, of course, and in the eyes of much of the world the United States' conception of free speech comes across as rather extreme—the legal scholar Frederick Schauer, a former First Amendment professor at Harvard, calls us a “recalcitrant outlier to a growing international understanding of what the freedom of expression entails.”

Other countries, even (or especially) liberal democracies, have figured out ways to regulate speech for what they deem to be the overall social good—obviously sometimes a contentious concept. In 2012, for instance, France preemptively banned public protests against an online video perceived to be anti-Muslim, citing fears of violence. (It's also outlawed burqas—uncovered faces help everybody “live together,” France argued before the European Court of Human Rights, which agreed.)

But other restrictions are less divisive. Indeed, an understanding that some speech regulation is socially useful is just sort of baked into a lot of European governance, such that NPR did a story tied to that 2012 protest ban on how U.S. notions of free speech can be “perplexing” abroad. Most instances where other democracies limit expression are situations in which they're trying to stem hatred. Schauer writes, “There appears to be a strong international consensus that the principles of freedom of expression are either overridden or irrelevant when what is being expressed is racial, ethnic or religious prejudice.” He mentions Germany and Israel, for instance, both of which have banned the Nazi party as well as other groups that promote racial superiority; Germany, France and Canada, which criminalize Holocaust denial; and a long list of countries that make it a crime “to engage in the incitement to racial, religious or ethnic hatred or hostility.” For much of the world, per Schauer, such utterances “are widely accepted as lying outside the boundaries of what a properly conceived freedom of expression encompasses.”

Again, inciting hatred is the key concept here. Meanwhile in the U.S., it's the incitement to harm or violence that marks the bounds of the First Amendment. (In the early '90s the U.S. was one of only 12 countries out of 129 that objected to a United Nations convention calling for laws criminalizing speech “based on racial superiority, or

hatred, [or] incitement to racial discrimination.”) You're probably aware of at least one of the little jurisprudential holes carved out over the years: the famous shouting-fire-in-a-crowded-theater standard, a non-binding example set forth by Oliver Wendell Holmes in a 1919 Supreme Court opinion holding that citizens' speech could be restricted only if it posed a “clear and present danger.” The Court raised the standard a half century later with a requirement of “imminent lawless action” before speech could be criminalized—in the case in question, an Ohio Klan leader had been arrested after advocating attacks against Jews and black people.

Generally, U.S. courts have tried to identify where speech might tip over into violence and set its limits there, while giving most other expression a wide berth. And folks here seem to like it that way: Per a 2015 Pew study, 77 percent of Americans “support the right of others to make statements that are offensive to their own religious beliefs,” and 67 percent were OK with statements “offensive to minority groups”—higher numbers than seen in any other nation surveyed.

But what of freedom of speech's close First Amendment cousin, freedom of the press? Here's where we don't do so hot. The watchdog group Reporters sans Frontières ranks countries in its annual World Free Press Index, and its most recent report placed the U.S. at number 43 of 180 countries—down from 41 in 2016. The report cited the arrests of journalists at protests, the outgoing Obama administration's prosecutions of leakers and of course the gang recently installed in Washington, not known for their love of constitutional norms and *especially* unaffectionate toward the fourth estate. Who's got the world's freest press? Norway, lauded by RSF for a rarity of violence and political pressure directed at journalists, and for its strong laws limiting consolidation of media ownership. Nordic countries hold the first four spots on the 2017 list.

Which may square with a theory Schauer offers for America's free-speech exceptionalism: Our love of personal liberty outweighs all. European social democracies, as exemplified in Scandinavia, strike a different balance between communal value and individual rights, so it makes sense they'd outshine the U.S. when it comes to protecting institutions like the media, seen as broadly benefiting society as a whole. What we lack in strong institutions, by contrast, we make up for in unaffiliated racist cranks exercising their right to publicly say more or less whatever they want. I guess that's the good news. LV /

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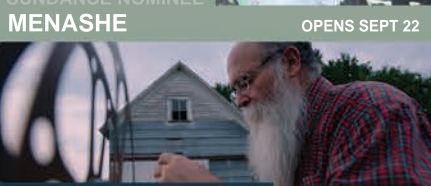
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**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The poet e e cummings said, “To be nobody-but-yourself—in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else—means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; and never stop fighting.” On the other hand, naturalist and writer Henry David Thoreau declared that “We are constantly invited to be who we are,” to become “something worthy and noble.” So which of these two views is correct? Is fate aligned against us, working hard to prevent us from knowing and showing our authentic self? Or is fate forever conspiring in our behalf, seducing us to master our fullest expression? I’m not sure if there’s a final, definitive answer, but I can tell you this, Libra: In the coming months, Thoreau’s view will be your predominant truth.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): “When you do your best, you’re depending to a large extent on your unconscious, ... because you’re waiting for the thing you can’t think of.” So said Scorpio director Mike Nichols in describing his process of making films. Now I’m conveying this idea to you just in time for the beginning of a phase I call “Eruptions from Your Unconscious.” In the coming weeks, you will be ripe to receive and make good use of messages from the depths of your psyche. At any other time, these simmering bits of brilliance might remain below the threshold of your awareness, but for the foreseeable future they’ll be bursting through and making themselves available to be plucked.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Author Barbara Ehrenreich has done extensive research on the annals of partying. She says modern historians are astounded by the prodigious amount of time that medieval Europeans spent having fun together. “People feasted, drank and danced for days on end,” she writes. Seventeenth-century Spaniards celebrated festivals five months of each year. In 16th-century France, peasants devoted an average of one day out of every four to “carnival revelry.” In accordance with current astrological omens, you Sagittarians are authorized to match those levels of conviviality in the coming weeks.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Kittens made French Emperor Napoleon III lose his composure. He shook and screamed around them. Butterflies scare actress Nicole Kidman. My friend Allie is frightened by photos of Donald Trump. As for me, I have an unnatural fear of watching reality TV. What about you, Capricorn? Are you susceptible to any odd anxieties or nervous fantasies that provoke agitation? If so, the coming weeks will be a perfect time to overcome them. Why? Because you’ll be host to an unprecedented slow-motion outbreak of courage that you can use to free yourself from long-standing worries.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): “The brain is wider than the sky,” wrote Emily Dickinson. “The brain is deeper than the sea.” I hope you cultivate a vivid awareness of those truths in the coming days, Aquarius. In order to accomplish the improbable tasks you have ahead of you, you’ve got to unleash your imagination, allowing it to bloom to its full power so it can encompass vast expanses and delve down into hidden abysses. Try this visualization exercise: Picture yourself bigger than the planet Earth, holding it tenderly in your hands.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): I got an email from a fan of Piscean singer Rihanna. He complained that my horoscopes rarely mention celebrities. “People love astrological predictions about big stars,” he wrote. “So what’s your problem? Are you too ‘cultured’ to give us what we the people really want? Get off your high horse and ‘lower’ yourself to writing about our heroes. You could start with the lovely, talented and very rich Rihanna.” I told Rihanna’s fan that my advice for mega-stars is sometimes different from what it is for average folks. For Piscean mega-stars like Rihanna, Justin Bieber, Ellen Page and Bryan Cranston, for example, the coming weeks will be a time to lay low, chill out and recharge. But non-famous Piscesans

will have prime opportunities to boost their reputation, expand their reach and wield a stronger-than-usual influence in the domains they frequent.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Psychologists say most people need a scapegoat—a personification of wickedness and ignorance onto which they can project the unacknowledged darkness in their own hearts. That’s the bad news. Here’s the good news: The coming weeks will be an excellent time for you to neutralize that reflex and at least partially divest yourself of the need for scapegoats. How? The first thing to do is identify your own darkness with courageous clarity. Get to know it better. Converse with it. Negotiate with it. The more conscientiously you deal with that shadowy stuff within you, the less likely you’ll be to demonize other people.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): If the weather turns bad or your allies get sad or the news of the world grows even crazier, you will thrive. I’m not exaggerating or flattering you. It’s exactly when events threaten to demoralize you that you’ll have maximum power to redouble your fortitude and effectiveness. Developments that other people regard as daunting will trigger breakthroughs for you. Your allies’ confusion will mobilize you to manifest your unique visions of what it takes to live a good life.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): “If at first you don’t succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried,” declared comedian Steven Wright. My Great Uncle Ned had a different perspective. “If at first you don’t succeed,” he told me, “redefine the meaning of success.” I’m not a fan of Wright’s advice, but Ned’s counsel has served me well. I recommend you try it out, Gemini. Here’s another bit of folk wisdom that might be helpful. Psychotherapist Dick Olney said that what a good therapist does is help her clients wake up from the delusion that they are the image they have of themselves.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): What is home? The poet Elizabeth Corn pondered that question. She then told her lover that home was “the stars on the tip of your tongue, the flowers sprouting from your mouth, the roots entwined in the gaps between your fingers, the ocean echoing inside of your ribcage.” I offer this as inspiration, Cancerian, since now is a perfect time to dream up your own poetic testimonial about home. What experiences make you love yourself best? What situations bring out your most natural exuberance? What influences feel like gifts and blessings? Those are all clues to the beloved riddle “What is home?”

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You’re most likely to thrive if you weave together a variety of styles and methods. The coming weeks will be a highly miscellaneous time, and you can’t afford to get stuck in any single persona or approach. As an example of how to proceed, I invite you to borrow from both the thoughtful wisdom of the ancient Greek poet Homer and the silly wisdom of the cartoon character Homer Simpson. First, the poet: “As we learn, we must be daily unlearning something which it has cost us no small labor and anxiety to acquire.” Now here’s Homer Simpson: “Every time I learn something new, it pushes out something old.”

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Filmmakers often have test audiences evaluate their products before releasing them to the masses. If a lot of viewers express a particular critique, the filmmaker may make changes, even cutting out certain scenes or altering the ending. You might want to try a similar tack in the coming weeks, Virgo. Solicit feedback on the new projects and trends you’ve been working on—not just from anyone, of course, but rather from smart people who respect you. And be sure they’re not inclined to tell you only what you want to hear. Get yourself in the mood to treasure honesty and objectivity. L.V. /



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### *Date Night*

www.rynedoughty.net

Des Moines-native singer-songwriter Ryne Doughty approached the production of his latest album, *Date Night*, with the desire to step away from the more stripped-down folk sound of his 2013 album, *Under The Willow Tree*. “I love that last album and the sound but I just wanted to do something different and really bring these songs to life,” he explained. “All of the songs are still songwriter based, but with more instrumentation and energy.”

To that end, the songs on *Date Night* blossom with the addition of a more substantial band backing them. Even with the bigger presence of instrumentation, Doughty’s mellow baritone and smooth fingerstyle acoustic plucking remain the focus of the album.

Doughty’s observational storytelling songwriting draws easy comparisons to influences Greg Brown and John Prine—his strength is in his ability to elevate the ordinary by focusing on the details. In the title track, he offers up a tribute to the date night with a few specific scenarios—getting Chinese buffet (“The white rice was steaming/there’s a glaze on the green beans/the lonely man in the corner just looking around”), going to the fair (“the corn dogs and funnel cakes, yeah/the hog barns and the 4H/and the tank tops with the tattoo sleeves”) and a failed camping cookout encounter with gasoline (“Beef patties burnt black and/eyebrows—hope they grow back and/of course for this fiasco I’m to blame”). Each story is punctuated by the chorus reinforcing that no matter what the outcome, the important part was being on a date with the woman he loves.

My favorite track is “Crossing the River,” an epic and dark hellhound-on-my-tail gospel track that reminds me a lot of Mark Knopfler’s post-Dire Straits work. The band develops the dark tone with the sizzling slide guitar echoing the pain of the narrator

really lay into hard in live settings. Since those early days the two have been vocal soul-mates with perfectly complementary timbres that make their songs ring.

The band has wisely maintained a vocal orientation while they’ve expanded into a

**Even with the bigger presence of instrumentation, Doughty’s mellow baritone and smooth fingerstyle acoustic plucking remain the focus of the album.**

who is trying like hell to break the pattern his sinning father set forth: “Whoa Daddy you’d be so happy/you passed your boozing and gambling genes down to me.”

Ryne Doughty has put out a satisfyingly complete record in *Date Night*. Like all great songwriters he knows how to pull from a wide palette of inspiration all captured to disc with a great backing band. He should continue in this direction for a bit.

—Mike Roeder



## THE HOST COUNTRY

### *The Host Country*

thehostcountry.bandcamp.com

The Host Country started as a Cedar Falls-based duo with Diana Weishaar and Ty Wistrand supplying tasteful piano and guitar settings to generous pop songs that they could

road-ready folk-rock quartet that is out now with a debut self-titled LP. The expanded lineup features Tom Rue on bass and Ethan Weishaar on drums, an excellent rhythm section ready to either lay back or forge ahead as the song dictates. The album was recorded by Philip Young at Wabi Sound in Des Moines and is notable for a polished sheen that suits the band’s well-earned air of professionalism.

The Host Country builds on a solid foundation of songwriting craft with concise arrangements that go straight to the target, like the rolling guitar riff that serves as a tag to the chorus of “Wake Up, Hazy” or the chilling sneak-attack harmonies on “Mama.” The latter tune, which is one of the set’s best, is also a textbook instance of Diana Weishaar’s sneaky-great piano performances: Listen in for how her keys add a needed new rhythmic and melodic texture to the song’s final verse, taking the track into hit-making territory.

Tracks like the finger-picking folk ballad “Fare Thee Well” and the slow-burn heart-tugger “May Song” thrive on the players’ enviable restraint, while the pop-inflected “Family” and the opening mid-tempo rocker “How the Four Winds Blow” show off the band’s comfort at the opposite end of the dynamic spectrum. But all throughout the highs and lows it is ultimately the strong vocal takes, song after song, that thread through the record—as they do through the band’s history—and make it whole. LV/

—Nate Logsdon

# SOMETHING BUGGY BY AIMEE LUCIDO

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.

## ACROSS

1. \_\_\_Him (men's fashion trend of 2017)
5. Events in courtroom dramas
11. Balls in a Taiwanese beverage
15. Gas company based in California
16. *The Tragedy of* \_\_\_\_, *Prince of Denmark*
17. Color of some ojos
18. European luxury car stored in the bathroom? [Wait! That's not what I meant to type!]
20. Sweatshirt with "I Don't Like Shit, I Don't Go Outside"
21. Vents, as grievances
22. Meas. of use in computer processing
24. Grave phrase
25. A star-crossed lover
27. One saying "Step right up! Buy a Swedish family car, folks!" [Hmmm, something must be wrong with my phone]
30. Stuff accumulated in some races
31. Bistec or puerco
32. Rene who was Tom Berenger's love interest in

## Major League

33. Date. Casually. Not that you're a "thing" per se. You know?
34. Pic often posted as a pregnancy announcement
35. mike.pence@\_\_\_com
36. Buy-one-get-one-free event at the German sports car dealership? [Okay, seriously, this phone is screwed up]
43. *Such* a long time
44. They make calls to the bullpen: Abbr.
45. Whitney whose inventions were used in war and slavery
46. Squirrel's pursuit
49. Syllables one might sing while being obnoxiously upbeat
51. Repulsive food, as it were
52. Pricey Italian car marketed to men? [Oh come on, this is just ridiculous]
54. They might be removed on the dance floor
55. Hi-\_\_\_ graphics
56. Bath & Body Works purchase
57. You can take a long

66. Desserts often made with a burnt marshmallow
67. Shave
68. Like me, the day after I lift (okay fine, like me the day after I sleep funny on my pillow)
69. Superstore that can sound fancy if you mispronounce it
70. Twentieth-century author Seton

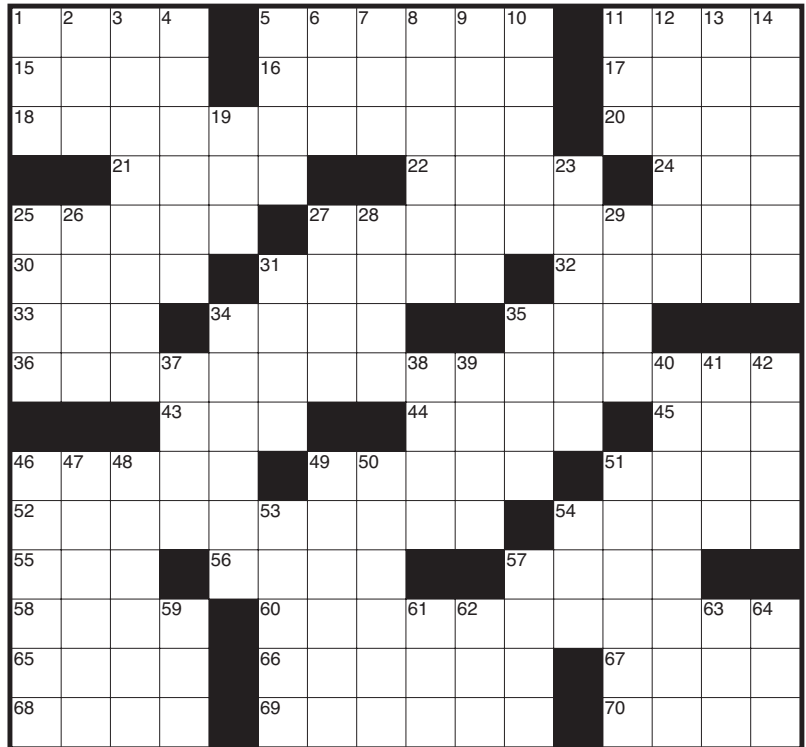
## DOWN

1. Character who is a terrible stereotype of a geek on *The Big Bang Theory*
2. Spanish gold
3. "A super dope homeboy from the Oaktown," in a 1990 hit
4. Unrealistic birthday requests, from some kids
5. "Therefore ..."
6. Cleaning need
7. "\_\_\_ Lady" (Meghan Trainor song)
8. *The Long Goodbye* director, 1973
9. Doesn't intrude on
10. Seven-time all-star pitcher Dave
11. Partner, in slang

12. Range that the Buffalo River flows through
13. Places underground
14. Elite in the NFL, as voted on by the Associated Press
19. Basic dude
23. Regales (or annoys) people during the holidays
25. Speak in spite of laryngitis
26. Cookie that comes in DQ Blizzard Creme and Candy Corn flavors
27. Like *my* opinions on politics and *only mine*
28. The only Yankee I can name
29. Be sovereign

31. Columbia Pictures cofounder Harry
34. Mildly sweet British pastries
35. Pokémon that evolves into Kadabra and Alakazam
37. Lord's laborer
38. Barack's favorite character on *The Wire*
39. Fruit that kinda deserves its name if I'm being honest
40. Time machine, to McFly
41. Additive in some lotions and smoothies
42. Pup's protests
46. Gives consent
47. Brand of shot, for short

48. Brackish-tasting seafood
49. Shock
50. *Jurassic Park* scourge
51. Himalayan people
53. Throw shade at, on stage
54. "Pardon me, are you Aaron Burr, \_\_\_?"
57. Put something on social media
59. Lasik site
61. The U.S. DoD, e.g.
62. Cold opening?
63. Blubber
64. Leaves in a bag, say



## LV227 ANSWERS

A	C	T	U	P	O	N	A	N	P	S	A	T		
T	H	O	S	E	R	O	C	A	R	I	L	E		
T	I	M	E	S	L	O	T	H	S	E	T	T	A	
I	N	B	L	O	O	M	E	A	R	S	H	O	T	
C	A	S	E	W	E	B	L	O	T	S				
		S	H	B	O	O	M	L	O	H	A	N		
B	O	W	S	E	R	E	A	V	E	I	L	E		
I	C	I	H	O	T	H	S	E	X	V	E	X		
N	H	L	I	W	O	N	R	E	D	A	C	T		
G	O	D	O	T	D	E	B	A	S	E				
		O	H	M	S	R	O	N	S	L	A	P		
S	C	A	L	E	N	E	A	D	S	P	A	C	E	
T	O	T	O	E	X	T	R	A	H	I	N	T	S	
E	C	H	O	E	G	A	D	A	S	C	O	T		
M	A	S	K	R	I	P	S	D	E	E	R	S		

- walk off a short one
58. Art Deco artist
60. Technology that appears to have caused the typos in this puzzle?
65. *V* for *Vendetta* heroine

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