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Giancarlo Minelli

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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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Photo by Dawn Frary



Photo: © Paul Kolnik

# New York City Ballet MOVES

Tuesday and Wednesday, October 24-25, 7:30 pm

Established in 1948 by choreographer George Balanchine and arts aficionado Lincoln Kirstein, New York City Ballet is one of the foremost dance companies in the world. Now under the direction of Ballet Master in Chief Peter Martins and Executive Director Katherine Brown, the company has an active repertory of more than 150 works, most of which were created for NYCB and many of which are considered modern masterpieces. New York City Ballet MOVES is composed of a select group of NYCB musicians and dancers from all ranks of the Company. Miriam Miller, a NYCB dancer from Iowa City, will dance during the Hancher performances, which will feature live music.

View the program at [hancher.uiowa.edu/2017-18/NYCBallet](http://hancher.uiowa.edu/2017-18/NYCBallet).

*Program and casting subject to change.*

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# Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra

## ***The Outer Space***

Friday, October 27, 7:00 pm

## ***No Place to Go***

Saturday, October 28, 7:00 pm

## **Late night concerts**

Friday and Saturday, October 27-28, 9:30 pm

Ethan Lipton is rumpled, self-deprecating, and brilliant. Choose one, two, or three ways to experience his hilarious, heartrending work. *The Outer Space* is a bittersweet, off-kilter tale of a couple headed for space—but the interstellar sailing isn't always smooth. *No Place to Go* is a story of work, outsourcing, and identity—and a potential career move to Mars. Both nights, Lipton and his band will close Club Hancher down with a concert of songs from their many records.

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# LETTERS

LV encourages community members, including candidates for office, to submit letters to [Editor@LittleVillageMag.com](mailto:Editor@LittleVillageMag.com). To be considered for print publication, letters should be under 500 words. Preference is given to letters that have not been published elsewhere.

## THE NOTORIOUS RBG REMINDS US ALL HOW TO EFFECT LASTING CHANGE

When asked what advice Ruth Bader Ginsburg had for young women today, she answered with: "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

This advice is more important than ever, it seems, as political opponents increasingly take to approaches that divide rather than unite. "Us vs. Them!" they shout, trying to convince you that there is only one side to a debate, and that the other side has no redeeming value.

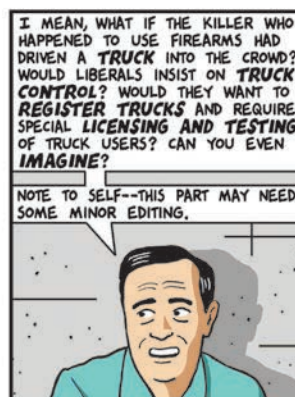
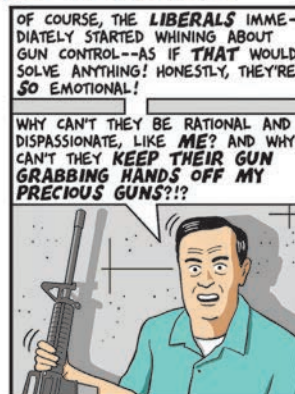
This political divide-and-conquer approach is the cornerstone of Mitch McConnell's leadership—we know how well that is

working out—and while it has its virtues for short term wins, those wins come at the cost of long term gains. If any of us are interested in developing this nation and improving its standing (even just our small part of it), we must take RBG's words to heart, and earnestly pursue its commanding message.

Fascism breeds resistance, and the more ruthlessly we fight for our cause, the more difficult it will be to secure victory for whatever it is we hope to achieve. This recognition—that, by and large, enemies are created by our own doing—has helped me avoid countless headaches in my existence while also being successful. Success does not have to be hard fought, difficult as it may be.

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



TOM TOMORROW © 2017



Barack Obama referenced this idea when he said in an interview: "I am always best as a counter puncher. ... That actually serves me well. I give people the benefit of the doubt, I try to understand their point of view; if I perceive that they try to take advantage of that, then I will—crush them. [laughter] That was just a joke, maybe, sort of, kind of."

**Build consensus, build a following, carry a big stick and wait patiently for the right time before you use it.**

His point was that we should walk softly, and carry a big stick. Build consensus, build a following, carry a big stick and wait patiently for the right time before you use it. In this current political climate we need all the allies and friends we can get to come together and improve our world.

When challenged personally, I reflect on the words of Max Ehrmann's "Desiderata," a poem that reminds readers to "go placidly amid the noise and haste":

Speak your truth quietly and clearly;  
and listen to others,  
even to the dull and the ignorant;  
They too have their story.

Ehrmann encourages readers to be gentle with themselves as well:

You are a child of the universe,  
no less than the trees and the stars;  
you have a right to be here. *LV*

—James Wetzel

# FUTILE WRATH SPOOKTACULAR BY SLW



## ONE REPORTER'S OPINION



Sam Locke Ward

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**Iowa City will likely keep City of Literature designation despite U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO**

Thank you Iowa City. —*Terry Kaeding*

**Iowa City Riverfront Crossings Park project receives federal grant for an inclusive nature play area**

I hate the name —*Ofer Sivan*

We refer to it as RFX Park here in our office. Has a little better flow. :) —*Ben Sandell*

Could it be any more generic? —*Ofer Sivan*

How about Aldo Leopold Parkway or Greenbelt? A snarky Non-Olmsted River Park? —*Matthieu Biger*

And—it's gonna flood. —*Ocala Wings*

Everything that will be used (from shelters to restrooms and the play equipment) has been designed in a matter TO flood in case a flood does occur. —*Quentin Misiag*

**Zombie Burger offers a reward for the return of Debbie's body parts**

Why would the thieves accept a gift card? They already got a half-off deal. I kid—if the restaurant knows who took it, just contact the police—and let justice run its corpse. —*Brad Taylor*

**Iowa City Zombie Burger to zombie thieves: Please return Debbie**

What are they gonna do with it—they can't display it anywhere cuz everyone knows where it came from. —*Ronda Kinsinger*

**All-night horror marathon FilmScream to feature classic and unreleased movies**

Only if there were two robots with me to help with heckling. Oh, and PACKERS!!! WOO!!! —*Charles Kwiatkowski*

I can get behind this! —*Michael P. Myers*

**John's Grocery will carry Colorado's Ska Brewing beers**

I'll have to be sure to pick it up, pick it up, pick it up. —*Matt Rebelskey*

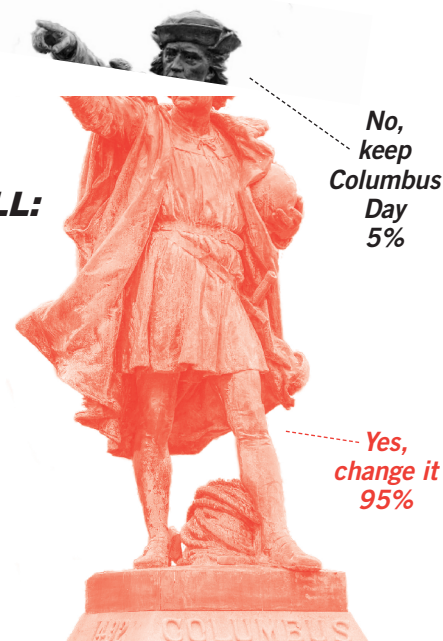
This is good news. —*Kirk Corey*

I don't know what this is but it sounds exciting. —*Erin Schroeder*

 /LittleVillage

## READER POLL:

**Should Columbus Day be officially changed to Indigenous Peoples' Day?**



**The Green Room presents master storyteller Peter Aguero of NPR's The Moth, live at The Englert Theatre.**

Damn! That was great! —*Katie Roche*

Wow, that was amazing! I heard so much about this today at a college visit with my senior in high school. Thank you for streaming tonight! —*Katie Busch Cargin*

**Letter to the Editor: An open letter to the new Iowa City school board**

Thanks for keeping an eye out and speaking up Heather Young. I hope this new board will listen but I honestly worry when I hear that IEPs and 504s for special education in our district are STILL not being followed. How can we afford to waste money when some of our most marginalized students are not getting what they need? —*Jennifer Babcock*



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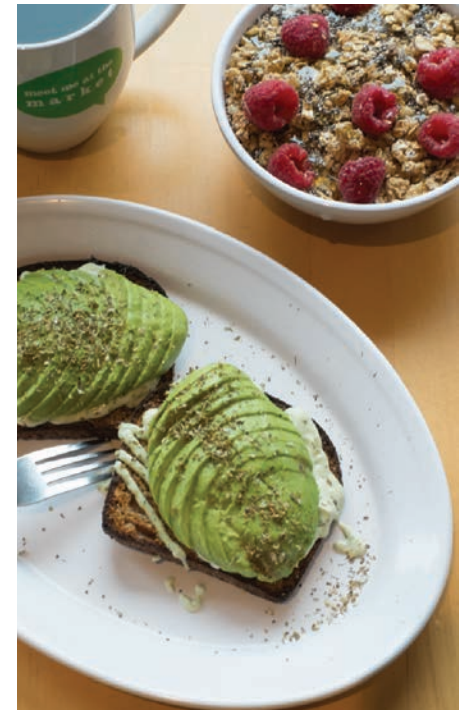
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## Democracy in Crisis

# Bridge Over Troubled Water

How the far right acts as a bridge phenomenon for white supremacists.

BY BAYNARD WOODS

In his tax speech in Pennsylvania last week, President Trump gave a shout out to “the great Jeffrey Lord.”

He went on to explain that Lord “was on fake news CNN for a long time. He was one of my few sources of truth.”

CNN severed ties with Lord after he tweeted “sieg heil,” a Nazi salutation.

Trump’s flirtation with racism is nothing new—it extends back through the campaign and into many facets of the presidency. He called the white supremacists in Charlottesville “very fine people” and has repeatedly refused to condemn hate groups. But the precise mechanisms by which the administration and ally media outlets like *Breitbart* act as bridges to normalize hate groups is becoming increasingly clear.

Last week, *Buzzfeed*’s massive story about the right-wing provocateur Milo Yiannopoulos and *Breitbart* showed that Yiannopoulos sent at least one major *Breitbart* story to a number of white supremacists to vet and line-edit. In a video embedded in the story, Richard Spencer and others gave a Nazi salute as Yiannopoulos sang “America the Beautiful” at karaoke. Milo even spiked a story at the suggestion of white nationalist Devin Saucier, a friend of Spencer’s.

Yiannopoulos was forced out of *Breitbart* after an old tape in which he appeared to condone pedophilia came out, but he has remained in contact with the major funders to the site, including the billionaire Mercer family, which reportedly funded Milo Inc.

Bannon, who had declared the Mercer-funded *Breitbart* a “platform for the alt-right,” left the site to run Trump’s campaign and work as a senior advisor to the White House, and returned to the site when he was

***Breitbart*, it turned out, was three times more influential than its closest rival, Fox News, during the 2016 election.**

ousted shortly after the white nationalist terror attack in Charlottesville.

“Dude---we r in a global existentialist war where our enemy EXISTS in social media and u r jerking yourself off w/ marginalia!!!!,” he wrote to Milo, according to the *Buzzfeed* article. “U should be OWNING this conversation because u r everything they hate!!! Drop your toys, pick up your tools and

go help save western civilization.”

“Western civilization” is often code—for people like Bannon and the alt-right fraternity

the Proud Boys—for whiteness. But it is less offensive and less likely to scare away potential converts.

In his *New York Times Magazine* story on *Breitbart*, Wil S. Hylton (full disclosure, a friend) talked to Yochai Benkler, a professor who had been studying the site’s rise.

*Breitbart*, it turned out in Benkler’s study, was three times more influential than its closest rival, Fox News, during the 2016 election. In this way, it has, according to Benkler, served as a sort of filter that helps legitimize racist ideas. Benkler told Hylton that “*Breitbart* is not talking about these issues in the same way you would find on the extreme right ... They don’t use the same language you find on sites like *VDARE* and *The Daily Stormer*,” two sites connected to the white-nationalist alt-right movement.

But they are talking about those same issues and it turns out that the fact that they don’t use the same language as *Daily Stormer* is what makes *Breitbart* effective as a bridge that, in Hylton’s words “functioned as a legitimizing tether for the most abhorrent currents of the right wing.”

Now that we know that Yiannopoulos actually sent his *Breitbart* stories (which were actually often not written by him) to Andrew “Weev” Aurenheimer, who works at the *Daily Stormer*, the bridge phenomenon comes off a bit differently.

“What we saw in our larger scale analysis was that *Breitbart* was offering a bridge, a translation platform from the white nationalists to the rest, but that the language and framing was sufficiently different to not be read directly as white nationalist,” Benkler responded in an email when I asked about the Milo story. “To the extent that the *BuzzFeed* news story is correct in its details, it describes in great detail the level process by which the ideas were transferred, but then still partly sanitized for consumption by people who would be receptive to the ideas, but not the messenger (e.g. *Daily Stormer*) or the very specific explicitly white nationalist language.”

Trump himself has often acted as a similar kind of bridge. Although he first endorsed Luther Strange to fill Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ old U.S. Senate seat in an Alabama special election, Trump has now come around to fully supporting Roy Moore, the theocratic

former Alabama judge twice removed from office for failing to recognize the rulings of a higher court.

But Moore is himself acting as a bridge for even more extreme figures.

who has “expressed beliefs that make even Moore’s arguably theocratic anti-gay and anti-Muslim views look mainstream by comparison.”

Peroutka, a secessionist and debt-col-

lection attorney, ran for president in 2004 for the Constitution Party. A decade later, in 2014, he ran for the county council in Anne Arundel County, Maryland and was supported by Moore, whom Peroutka has honored by naming a field on his farm for the Alabamian. In 2012, Peroutka asked attendees of a League of the South conference to “stand for the national anthem” and proceeded to play “Dixie.”

So as the President and his administration continue to throw fits about athletes “disrespecting the flag,” by taking a knee during the national anthem, they are actively supporting or receiving support from racist extremists who support either the Nazis or the Confederacy. Nevertheless, in the same way that

*Breitbart* launders the extremist views of the *Daily Stormer*, making them more palatable, the administration is acting as a bridge to legitimize those elements on the right that are even more extreme than Trump. LV/

*Baynard Woods is a reporter at the Real News Network.*



Blair Gauntt

As  
Talking  
Points Memo

reported last week, Moore’s top supporter is Michael Peroutka, who the site described as a “hardline Confederate sympathizer with longtime ties to a secessionist group”

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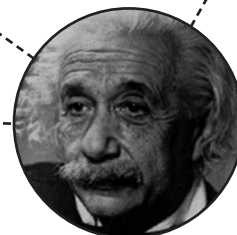
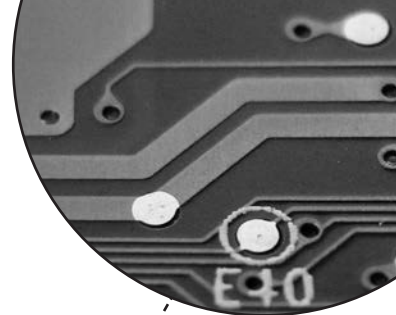
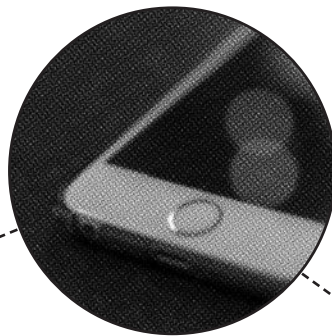
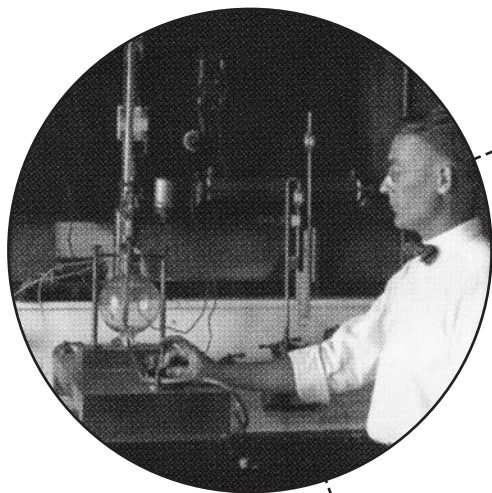
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# TRANSFORMATION

**By Annie Baker**

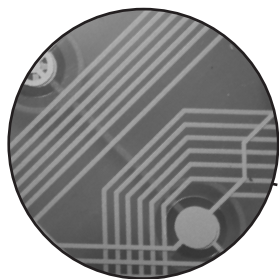
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# MIRACLE MACHINES

What may seem impractical in the present creates the possibilities of the future. But if we abandon our commitment to basic science, technological progress will be in danger. • **BY KASRA ZAREI**





Science has served as the source of U.S. innovation for decades; but it has recently been under attack with funding for basic science in the United States at a 40-year low.

In 1939, Abraham Flexner, founding director of Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study, wrote the "Usefulness of Useless Knowledge," in which he argued that,

"throughout the whole history of science most of the really great discoveries which had ultimately proved to be beneficial to mankind had been made by men and women who were driven not by the desire to be useful but

merely the desire to satisfy their curiosity."

The challenge, Daniel Reed, University of Iowa vice president of research and economic development, said, is that it is impossible to predict at the time how useful a scientific theory or idea will be.

"Sometimes the lag of the understanding of the utility can be decades. But if you look historically at the impact of investing in answers to those basic questions, it has been truly profound," Reed said.

Consider an iPhone—its technologies can be traced back to fundamental physics from the beginning in the 20th century. The Global Positioning System (GPS) relies on a combination of quantum physics and Einstein's theory of general relativity.

Underlying all of these innovations is basic scientific and engineering research—work that involved seeking answers to basic questions that had no obvious utility at the time—innovations that wouldn't be possible without the Miracle Machine.

The Miracle Machine, simply put, is the practice of investment in basic science to drive innovation and the economy. The modern version of the Miracle Machine had its origins in the post-World War II era. Vannevar Bush, who had been appointed as the head of the Office of Scientific Research and Development by President Franklin Roosevelt, wrote an influential memo in 1945 called *Science the Endless Frontier*.

"Science offers a largely unexplored hinterland for the pioneer who has the tools for his task," Bush wrote. "The rewards of such exploration both for the Nation and the individual are great. Scientific progress is one essential key to our security as a nation, to our better health, to more jobs, to a higher standard of living, and to our cultural progress."

Bush's memo led to the creation of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and other federal agencies.

**"Science offers a largely unexplored hinterland for the pioneer who has the tools for his task."**

**—Vannevar Bush**

"For most of the last 50 years, the rest of the world has looked at us with envy, and [some countries] have responded by aggressively building their own Miracle Machines," Reed said.

## SCIENCE, THE ECONOMY & THE BUDGET

Recently countries like China and South Korea have been increasing their investment in scientific research and development. Worldwide, South Korea falls just behind Israel as the two countries that spend the most as a percentage of gross domestic product, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Canada significantly cut its science budget a decade ago, resulting in slow declines in innovation, economic output and students enrolled in science Ph.D. programs. Now the U.S. appears to be following suit. The federal government's portion of funding for basic scientific research has fallen below 50 percent of research funding for the first time since World War II. Back in the '60s and '70s, the government's share represented about 70 percent of funding, according to data from the NSF.

The challenge in telling the story of the Miracle Machine is that the prospective story is difficult to communicate. The retrospective story is often more powerful—imagine life today without cell phones, life-saving treatments and other electronics and innovations; most of them resulted from basic science.

"It's a leap of faith—you throw in some money and trust something amazing will happen," Reed said.

Money spent on scientific research has more localized impacts, too.

The University of Iowa does over \$550 million worth of externally funded research. This support comes from federal, state, non-profits and a combina-

tion of other sources. That money has a local impact, driving part of the economy around Iowa City, as well as supporting local and national industries that provide equipment and supplies. The money also carries broader, long-term impacts, including attracting talented scientists and researchers from around the world, and maintaining the competitiveness of the U.S. economy.

"One of the things that has made the U.S. successful for the last 60 years has been that it is a net importer of intellectual talent. It has been a magnet to the best and brightest that the planet produces, providing a socioeconomic advantage for the country," Reed said.

However, when societies experience socioeconomic stress, they tend to focus on the near term, pushing off longer-term goals

to more profitable times, stirring political discussions about the role and importance of scientific research.

## SCIENCE & POLITICS

Among the many roles of scientists is to, as dispassionately as possible, lay out the facts so policymakers can make informed decisions. When scientists become too politically involved, people begin to lose trust in their ability to lay out those facts accurately. But science and politics often end up mixing.

"So many of the social issues that affect us are driven by scientific knowledge, and inevitably it becomes politicized, whether it is about debates of climate change or health care," Reed said.

The March for Science, a collection of marches held on April 22 in Washington, D.C. and over 600 cities worldwide, was a controversial action in the scientific

community. It was part of a non-partisan movement to celebrate the importance of science and call for evidence-based policy. However, some saw it as a political reaction to an opposing elected official, with critics saying the march might send a message to the public that scientists are driven by ideology more than by evidence.

"Nobody wants the suggestion, let alone the reality, of having scientific work tainted by one's political inclinations," said Amy Charles, co-organizer of the March for Science in Iowa City. "But the March for Science was something new. This was the recognition by scientists and people who care about science in the U.S. that we've arrived at a dangerous moment. We're now 70 years away from the public's perception of the scientist as a national hero, someone who wins the war, and in that time, a great deal of distrust of science has taken root."

Charles said both scientists and nonscientists have been shocked by that distrust, and said she was glad that shock turned to protest

instead of silence.

For some, the march marked a cultural shift in the scientific community.

"There are new conversations, however muted, about what kind of politics a respectable scientist can and ought to engage in, what's at stake, how real the dangers are," Charles said.

## GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE

The March for Science, and the underlying political tensions, might carry a different meaning worldwide, where the United States has long been seen as a leader in scientific fields.

"Scientists abroad are doing science on a very small fraction of the money we do it on here, and they look with longing at our labs and the opportunities people have here to do science, to discover, to do really significant

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work,” Charles said.

The NSF and National Institutes of Health, among other organizations, give out tremendous amounts of money every year to support faculty, staff and students in the hopes that they are tomorrow’s scientific leaders.

“These institutions water scientific seeds liberally, support the most promising scholars they can find in the country,” Charles said. “It’s really a romantic act—the idea of ad astra, to the stars, that sense of untrammelled wonder and the sense that yes, of course we have to go discover.”

But it’s not just about the money.

“The money is important, but you have to step outside this country to get a sense of the scale of the optimism that represents—all that money, just for students—the trust and belief in science and our ability to discover and know,” Charles said. “It’s made this country very powerful. The threat to that optimism is being felt all over the world now. If the lights go out here, it goes dark all over the world.”

The United States is still a powerhouse

and leader in the realm of science, but abandoning that leadership role may have serious ramifications worldwide.

“In the near-term for any society, it’s not absolutely required to invest in basic science. But the longer-term consequences of not doing so are profound,” Reed said.

When arguing in favor of funding, scientists should avoid an entitlement mentality, and instead help the public to see the benefits provided by science, by asking first, “How can I help you,” rather than simply asking for money, Reed said. Still, there are concerns about the impact of scientists advocating for continued support of basic research and where the line is between advocating for science and making a political statement.

The money funding science is part of the government’s discretionary budget—it’s not required spending, which makes it a tempting place to cut. And those cuts have been made at both the federal and state levels.

Earlier this year, President Trump proposed a budget that would have made

large cuts to basic research. But in votes in September, members of the U.S. House of Representatives mostly rejected those cuts (although many agencies’ budgets would still shrink slightly or remain the same under the House version, and a finalized budget hasn’t yet passed Congress).

There are consequences for deciding not to invest in the scientific research that has helped the American economy move forward by constantly asking questions and searching for greater understanding.

“The law of scholarship in general, not just science, is to keep asking questions. Because the answers to those questions has enabled so many things that we take for granted now. And we have to keep telling this story,” Reed said. LV

*Kasra Zarei is a student in the MD/Ph.D. program at the University of Iowa and an avid writer interested in the interplay between science, medicine, policy and humanity.*



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# Gumption.

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Breakfast is arguably the most important meal of the day, and the restaurants that cater to the eager morning crowd need to be able to appease both sweet and savory palates. For any breakfast lover, both need to be balanced in flavor and texture; well-balanced plates have become a science for chefs. A well-balanced plate paired with a notable beverage, hot or cold, has been elevated to an art form.

Gumption. has achieved and perfected the chic, family-friendly breakfast spot with its farm-to-fork food and drink menus. Those menus caters to many different diners, with

each plate highlighting local ingredients, from fresh seasonal produce to fresh breads.

Sweet-breakfast lovers can't go wrong with the Bananas Foster French Toast. The four slices of French toast are topped with bananas, caramelized maple syrup and home-made granola, and all the flavors play off each other: The deep richness of the syrup balances the smooth sweetness of the bananas, and the sprinkling of granola provides a textural pop against the bananas and toast. This is the mainstay of the sweeter side of the menu and it will leave you beyond the point of satisfaction.

While a sweeter breakfast is always tempting, I am partial to the savory side. There is nothing better than a perfectly prepared egg. At Gumption., the dish that highlights this is the SW Eggs Benedict. When you break the

**A well-balanced plate paired with a notable beverage, hot or cold, has been elevated to an art form.**

egg open, the rich yolk is complimented by the salty pulled pork and the sweet cornbread pancake. The richness of each bite is brightened by a refreshing salsa verde hollandaise

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Caroline Thorne

sauce. This savory, full-flavored dish will please through to the very last bite.

The drink offerings are equally delightful. Whether it is a simple, yet flavorful, cup of coffee or one of their more creative, handcrafted ones, you won't be disappointed. On first glance, you may feel overwhelmed or question the pairings of ingredients; start simple by choosing a drink with ingredients that appeal to not only you but your mood.

I highly recommend the Sweet Ginger Tea for non-coffee drinkers or for those who want a change in pace. Once it was brought to the table, I had to patiently wait for a little timer to run out of sand; as I did, the steam rolled off the top of the cup and the tea's aroma filled the air. The ginger is steeped in hot water, coconut milk and honey. The creaminess from the coconut milk is highlighted and sweetened by the honey, yet the ginger's natural bite cuts through it, creating a sip to warm one's soul. LV/

—Caroline Thorne

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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: October

# Before Planting

### I.

Leave the screams, the unspoken fights—

“I can’t take it all, I ain’t gonna take it all, I don’t want none of it, I just want”—  
to roll naked across a gravel road while the dust kicks up and the blood is drawn  
like a goddamned roadmap across ass and knees and chest. Pick your starting point with a horn-nailed finger and travel your way to the southern cleft.

Let the power of the river be like salt in the mouth, sweat on the brow, fever in the mind, blood in a stiff prick. Let the ditch beckon with a promise of soft grass like a lazy woman with good tits and a bedroom smile. Let the field be the tumble of bedsheets and let the moon roll crazy and full in a blue sky  
like a wayward eye turning back in the head—lost in the pump and blow of the river  
Rhythm,  
hear the thrum under your legs as the tractor plows, digging hard into good earth—  
to let the seed be planted deep, deep and warm as it can go—  
with a drive and a clatter and a pull  
and a roar of machinery pistons and good heat.

### II.

Let the handkerchief be dipped in riverwater.  
Let the brow be wiped clean.  
Let the lips be parted and pulled back  
and the drizzle of cool moisture be taken there.

Allow the muscles their electric twitch.  
Allow the breath to come:  
the smell of hickory leaves and the hot twist of willow;  
the green whisper of wind through bluestem and Indiangrass;  
the taste of the breeze on the tongue.

Allow the tractor runner to take the weight of your booted foot.  
Allow the soil the sudden dropping plunge of the plow—  
the hydraulics like a scream, or like a fight given sudden breath.

### III.

But then maybe that’s not you out in that field,  
maybe you’re still lying on the side of the road,  
clothes torn, rolling almost naked from the original tumble of the tractor—  
blood like a roadmap across your body.

Maybe you fucked it up coming through the ditch  
and rolled it in the tall grass  
and now that’s it—that’s your life all  
contorted and laying there gasping  
beside the gravel road  
because you never made it across the ditch.

### IV.

Later there will be tears held back.  
Later there will be rage unspoken.

Right now there is a field like satin sheets stretched long and low  
and giving up good dreams of birth  
and growth  
and harvest. LV/

*Mike Moran lives in Mount Vernon, Iowa. He is a writer, a director, an actor, a schoolteacher, and plays, sings, recites poetry, performs stories, and generally acts the fool while representing the ever-mythical Iowa Goatsinger. His new show, “Near Fear,” premieres at the 1st Street Community Center in Mount Vernon at the end of the month.*

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## Prairie Pop

# SAMPLING THE STARS



Sounds from the Van Allen belts recorded by Explorer I are featured in a new composition premiering at Witching Hour. • **BY KEMBREW MCLEOD**

**D**J Spooky is going to drop some science, literally. His new *Explorer I Remix* emerged from a collaboration between this visiting artist and a group of University of Iowa scientists, musicians, librarians and archivists. One of the featured performances at the Englert Theatre during this fall's Witching Hour festival, the world debut of this composition is the product of an innovative partnership between a public university and a nonprofit community theater, something that could only happen in a place like Iowa City.

The University of Iowa Libraries commissioned *Explorer I Remix* in anticipation of the 60th anniversary of a satellite

launched in 1958 that contained an instrument built at the university, which was used to discover Earth's radiation belts (known as the Van Allen belts in honor of UI scientist James Van Allen). Rather than honor this anniversary with another staid lecture, the good folks at the university sought out ways to transform science into art, and vice versa.

DJ Spooky, born Paul Miller, developed his composition by incorporating samples of acoustic sound waves produced by the Van Allen belts recorded by UI physics Professor Donald Gurnett and UI research scientist Bill Kurth—lead scientists on the Voyager, Cassini, Van

Allen Probes and Juno missions. The show at the Englert on Oct. 20 will be a hybrid performance that mixes digital sampling with traditional musical instrumentation, provided by local musicians in the Red Cedar Chamber Music ensemble.

"I imported sounds that were edited from the Van Allen belts and made them parts of the composition," Miller said. "I'm a big fan of live sampling, and I've worked with artists as diverse as Public Enemy and Yoko Ono,

amongst many others."

Paul Miller believes that the critical term for the 21st century is "interdisciplinary." He is inspired by everyone from early video artists like Nam June Paik and Dadaist Marcel Duchamp, to hip-hop musicians such as Grandmaster Flash and the Roots' Questlove.

"It's all a mix," he said. "One time I took a studio to Antarctica and made a symphony about the sound of ice. I also did paintings, and a series of graphic design prints. I love the way that software has made this kind of interdisciplinary approach a fundamental way to think about the creative economy. It's all connected."

That's why he jumped at the chance to develop this project.

"The University of Iowa crew that commissioned the project comes out of a few different departments—a really great group of enthusiastic folks from the university library and archives, and the astrophysics departments," Miller explained.

"Thomas Keegan, who runs the Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio at the University of Iowa Libraries, and Dr.

Cornelia Lang, associate professor

Danielle Levitt

**"It's all a mix. One time I took a studio to Antarctica and made a symphony about the sound of ice."**

**—Paul Miller**

**Witching Hour: DJ Spooky Englert Theatre, Friday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m., \$20-65 Passes at the Englert box office and at [WitchingHourFestival.com](http://WitchingHourFestival.com)**



sor with the Department of Physics and Astronomy, both helped spearhead the scenario.”

Miller said they were interested in developing ways of putting art, science and contemporary music into a dialog. He previously came to the University of Iowa two times to review the archival materials and distill them into a series of compositions that meditated on the Van Allen belts and their historical contexts—“No easy task,” he noted.

“During the interim, I got to meet many amazing University of Iowa professors and really expanded my approach to what people call ‘data sonification,’ in order to try and invoke the way the Van Allen belts are actually loops around the planet,” Miller said.

Data sonification, Miller explained, involves taking very specific mathematical information and translating it into music. In preparing *Explorer I Remix*, he also gleaned insights from a wide array of musicians and composers who have mashed up music and science—from European art music to the Wu-Tang Clan.

“I’m inspired by composers like Iannis Xenakis, who I worked with before he passed away, and more minimalist composers like Steve Reich and John Adams. If you look at the history of composers responding to interstellar phenomena of course, Holst’s symphony of *The Planets* is in the mix. And yes, these days even GZA from Wu-Tang is rapping about physics, so there’s a lot of material to riff on.”

The University of Iowa has a long history of multidisciplinary collaborations—having commissioned, for example, several pieces by the string ensemble Kronos Quartet—and *Explorer I Remix* is an extension of this tradition.

“And there are some amazing professors at the University of Iowa, like Professor Larry

Granroth and of course Professor Don Gurnett ... They are inspirations, as are folks like contemporary dance choreographer Professor Michael Sakamoto and Professor Jason A. England, who are all doing some great interdisciplinary work. I wish I had been able to come out to Iowa more often,” Miller said.

As someone who has had a longstanding interest in copyright and remix culture, it doesn’t escape Miller’s attention that the data produced by federally-funded projects is in the public domain, which allows anyone to transform it.

“I’m a firm believer in open source media. My Antarctica project was made open source because, literally, there is no government in Antarctica. It’s the only place on Earth with no government,” he said.

“I wanted to reflect that kind of approach as a fundamental question about how artists reflect what’s going on. I just pay respect to the concept that we all share, because that’s the way electronic music works. No one is isolated, and we need to think of the world as an unfinished mix that can always be changed and transformed.”

In the lead up to the world premiere, Miller has been working with Professor Lang to develop visuals that will accompany the performance—drawing on archival materials taken from the University of Iowa Library. Miller notes that the UI has amazing material from the mid-20th century space race era: “I’m super psyched to see how people from the university see their own history!” **LV**

*Kembrew McLeod regularly explores the mysteries of the Van Allen belts with his homemade DIY rocket and space pod.*



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A-List

## URBAN SOLITUDE, INSANE TIMES

Beach Fossils somersaults from escapism to politics. **BY COLLEEN KENNEDY**

The Brooklyn-based Beach Fossils have been creating lo-fi, shoegaze odes since their self-titled breakthrough in 2010. Following their well-received sophomore album *Clash the Truth* in 2013, the band took some time to develop its latest work, 2017's *Somersault*. Coming off of a tour that included the West Coast, Europe and an East Coast leg, they will make their Iowa City debut as part of the Witching Hour festival.

In a phone interview with frontman Dustin Payseur, he spoke about the band's new direction and what's in store for their performance at Gabe's for Witching Hour, 11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 20.

The new album, *Somersault*, departs from the band's previous records in several key ways. Recording in New York City and upstate New York, and with additional production and instrumentation added in Los Angeles, the album is the first for Payseur's new label Bayonet Records, co-owned with

his wife, Kate Garcia. The new label allows the band members more time and freedom to explore new sounds. This album was also the last recording with longtime drummer Tommy Gardner, who has since moved to China for a new career path.

The approach for this album was more collaborative, with bassist Jack Doyle Smith and guitarist Tommy Davidson each contributing their different styles and approaches, "riffing on ideas and different parts," Payseur said, to make a layered song in a "puzzle" like fashion. Payseur explained that the band interpolates the "textures and blending of instruments" of various genres, pulling from hip-hop drum loops, jazz-inflected wind instruments and Phil Spector's layered "Wall of Sound" approach to create a dreamy sonicscape for *Somersault*.

The new album, too, diverges from their previous records in their new sound, which is both paradoxically minimal and personal yet also aurally expansive and more overtly

political than previous works. Moving away from the melodic murkiness of their debut, there is orchestration with strings and flutes, adding a new delicate lushness showing their development over the last few years.

"People can expect what you've done to be what you continue to do," Payseur said of this new turn, "but I want to continue to make new stuff. If I just made the same thing over and over, it would be really boring. The only band that could make the same record over and over was the Ramones."

While Payseur's lyrics have always been very personal, the political has infiltrated. Beach Fossils have always excelled at songs about "urban solitude" in New York City, escapist fantasies and breakups, and the new album contains those themes.

"A lot of my songs are about escapism," Payseur explained. "On the first record, there wasn't a lot of politics, because a lot of the news was so crushing, we wanted to escape a bit, but without turning it off. Sleep with one eye open."

But now what Payseur referred to as the



“insane times” of the new administration can be felt in the lyrics of the new album.

“I never purposely set out to make something political,” Payseur said, “but usually my lyrics are what I’m dealing with personally—but there’s such a massive overlap right now that it’s impossible for them not to come out in a political way. Politics are a really big part of my life and the life I share with my family and friends.”

shows friends—all local artists, dancers and drag queens: “the people who make New York city amazing,” Payseur said—singing along to the song, capturing the band’s hopefulness, as these artists demonstrate what Payseur called “perseverance, pushing through an undesirable climate.” The video shows the band’s expanded range and how collaborative their recent efforts have been, and the video and lyrics look into the city and

**Witching Hour: Beach Fossils Gabe’s,**  
**Friday, Oct. 20, 11 p.m., \$12-65 Passes**  
**at the Englert box office and at**  
**WitchingHourFestival.com**



## “Politics are a really big part of my life and the life I share with my family and friends.”

—*Dustin Payseur*

On the standout track “Saint Ivy,” Payseur plaintively sings “Hard to find a reason/ Television and another headline/Don’t believe in Jesus/Heaven knows I’m wasting my time/Wanna believe in America/but it’s somewhere I can’t find.” The video for this song, directed by Joey Chiqui and Milah Libin,

its inhabitants for positive change.

On tour, Payseur said they are a “different band live,” including an extra touring member who plays keyboards and trumpet, and adds back-up vocals. They like to feed off the audience’s energy to create a spirited live show.

“For us, it’s more fun to just go off the rails, to go into a random jam and never know where it’s going to go,” Payseur said. “One moment, we might make a part that is really delicate and the next moment create something that’s really dissonant. We can change that up every night. It is based on how we feel that night and our interaction with the audience.” LV/

*Colleen Kennedy is a visiting assistant professor at University of Iowa. She is pretty pumped to check out all the events at this year’s Witching Hour.*

# EVENTS

CEDAR RAPIDS • IOWA CITY AREA

**Oct. 18–31, 2017**

MUSIC AREA EVENTS PRESENTED BY HANCHER AUDITORIUM

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## 10/18

**First Fleet Concerts**  
**Presents: Snow Tha**  
**Product w/ AJ Hernz,**  
**Castro Escobar, Blue**  
*Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$15*  
**311 w/ Tropidelic, US**  
*Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$36.75*

**Coolzey w/ Snailmate,**  
**Rad Rascal, Cracka Don,**  
*Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5*

## 10/19

**Hip Hop Night ft. Semi**  
**Sixteenz, Lucien Parker,**  
*Gabe’s, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$10*

**IPR Benefit w/ Hex Girls,**  
**Boat Motor, Splroof,**  
**Octopus College Hill,**  
*Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5*  
**Canaan Smith w/ Chris**  
**Bandi, Wooly’s, Des**  
*Moines, 8 p.m., \$15-20*  
**Sub Conscious**  
**Productions Presents:**  
**Eprom, Blue Moose Tap**  
*House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$15-18*

## 10/20

**Live Music w/ Elizabeth**  
**Moen, Cedar Ridge**  
*Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free*  
**First Fleet Concerts**  
**Presents: Secondhand**  
**Serenade w/ Ronnie**  
**Winter, Blue Moose Tap**  
*House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$20-25*

**Mobina Galore w/ the**  
**Penkse File, the Cherry**  
**Tops, Iowa City Yacht**  
*Club, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5*  
**Witching Hour: DJ**  
**Spooky, The Englert**  
*Theatre, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-65*  
**The KIDZ BOP Kids: Best**  
**Time Ever Tour, Adler**  
*Theatre, Davenport, 7 p.m., \$29.50-75*

**Joshua Bell w/ Alessio**  
**Bax—piano, Hancher,**  
*Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-70*  
**Heatbox w/ Some**  
**Friends, Wooly’s, Des**  
*Moines, 8 p.m., \$10-12*  
**Beth Bombara, Big Grove**  
*Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free*

**Witching Hour: Audrey Chen Presents:**  
**Stag Song**, RADInc., Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$40-65

**Fresh Wax w/ Nathan Lane**, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 9 p.m., Free

**Witching Hour: Beach Fossils w/ Younger**, Karen Meat, Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-65

**Ozymandias w/ (gsc)**, SOTR, Taylor Kobberdahl, Micah John, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

**Witching Hour: Talibam! Presents:**  
**Endgame of the Anthropocene**, RADInc., Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$40-65

## 10/21

**Witching Hour: Tricia Park—Variations**, The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$40-65

**First Fleet and Acrylic Booking Present:**  
**Knocked Loose w/ Hollow Earth**, Still

**Standing, Cut The Tongue**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$10-12

**Irma Thomas, the Blind Boys of Alabama & the Preservation Hall Legacy Quintet**, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 7:30 p.m., \$28-53

**Tonight! Tonight! The Music of Leonard Bernstein**, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$10-20

**Witching Hour: Nadia Sirota**, The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-65

**Northern Parallels: 012**, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 8 p.m., Free

**Saloonatics**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**2 Chainz w/ Tee Grizzley and Skoolboy Bliss**, US Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$42.99-112.99

**Live Music w/ The Cedar County Cobras**, Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar Rapids, 9 p.m., Free

**The Pale Moons**, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$10

**The Nadas**, Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$15-20

**Sub Conscious Productions Presents:**  
**SNBRN**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-18

**Witching Hour: Yves Tumor w/ Talibam!, Meka Jean**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-65

**Dan DiMonte Trio w/ Azeem Ward**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

**Marah in the Mainsail w/ Soul Sherpa**, Iowa City Yacht Club, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$8

**Witching Hour: Kweku Collins w/ Philip Rabalais**, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$10-65

## 10/22

**FARM Presents: Peter Mulvey w/ Dave Moore**, Phil Heywood, The Mill, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$12-15

**Skipper's Alley**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$18-22

**Ultraviolet Sextet w/ Rattlesnake Master**, Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free

**Allison Miller and Boom Tic Boom: 'Otis Was A Polar Bear'**, Voxman Music Building, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free

**Surfer Blood w/ John June Year**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$12-15

## 10/24

**UI Jazz Performances: Grad Combos**, The Mill, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$3-5

**Peter Case**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$16-19

**Snow Tha Product w/ AJ Hernz**, Castro Escobar, Wooly's, Des Moines, 7:30 p.m., \$15-60

**Twice Is Nice: An Evening With Deer Tick w/ Chris Crofton**, Codfish Hollow Barnstormers, Maquoketa, 8 p.m., \$35-40

**A Few Small Repairs 20th Anniversary Tour: Shawn Colvin and Her Band w/ Larry Campbell, Teresa Williams**, The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$45

## 10/25

**Janet Jackson: State of the World Tour**, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 8 p.m., \$29.95-125

**An Evening With Grassfed**, Iowa City Yacht Club, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$7

## 10/26

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

**Big Daddy Weave**, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 7 p.m., \$23-78

**The Book of J**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$16-19

**The Stone Foxes w/ Sister Wife**, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$12-15

**Yonder Mountain String Band w/ the Last Revel**, Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$27.50-30

**Har-di-Har w/ Peas & Carrot**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5

**Junior Brown w/ Brian Johannesen**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$20-25

## 10/27

**Jazz After Five: Dawgs and a Bone**, The Mill, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free

**Live Music w/ Society of Broken Souls**, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free

**First Fleet Concerts Presents: Chris Webby w/ Nate Millyunz, M.A.R., Rapper Dan, Nu Grounds Music Group, Bri Da King**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$20-25

**Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra: 'The Outer Space'**, Hancher, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-25

**SOLD OUT: Dinosaur Jr. w/ Easy Action**, Codfish Hollow Barnstormers, Maquoketa, 7 p.m., \$25-30

**Gogol Bordello w/ Lucky Chops**, Wooly's, Des Moines, 7:30 p.m., \$30

**Flash in a Pan**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free

**Fresh Wax w/ Eon**, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, 9 p.m., Free

**Goose Town Presents: HalloQueen**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$10

**Pho w/ Zeta June**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$10

**Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra: Late Night Concerts**, Hancher, Iowa City, 9:30 p.m., \$10-25

**Joe Maz**, EDEN Lounge & Nightclub, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free

## 10/28

**Plastic Relations (Home Football Game)**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free

**Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra: 'No Place to Go'**, Hancher, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-25

**Habib Koité & Bamada**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$24-29

**Joey Bravo**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**Victor & Penny and The Loose Change Orchestra**, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$10

**Night Of The Living Dead Moines - 70s Revival w/ Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**, The Beatless, Polk County Five, Wooly's, Des Moines, 9 p.m., \$10-15

**Wylde Nept**, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$10

**Goose Town Presents: HalloQueen**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$7-8

**Ethan Lipton & His Orchestra: Late Night Concerts**, Hancher, Iowa City, 9:30 p.m., \$10-25

## 10/29

**Live Music w/ Mike Staebale**, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 1 p.m., Free

**Selector Dub Narcotic w/ True Commando**, Alex Body, Public Space One, 7 p.m., \$5

**John Papa Gros**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$16-19

## 10/30

**Gaata Rahe Mera Dil: The Iconic Melody of Sachin Dev Burman**, Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 7 p.m., Free

**Reaching Everest w/ the Most Of Me**, DeSelect, High Point, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5

## 10/31

**UI Jazz Performances: Grad Combos**, The Mill, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$3-5

**The Dawn Presents: Halloween Show w/ the Dawn as Genesis/Gabriel/**

**Collins & The Velies as The Pretenders**, Daytrotter, Davenport, 8 p.m., \$8-12

**16th Annual Hippie Halloween:**

**Winterland (as The Grateful Dead)**, Some Friends, Johnny Novacaine (as moe.), Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$10-15

**Halloween Bash w/ the Gentle & Samedy**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free



# HALLOWEEN

## 10/18

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

## 10/19

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**SOLD OUT—Wine With the Witch**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 7 p.m., \$24.95

**October Fright Nights: 'The Exorcist,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, 10 p.m., \$5

## 10/20

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Shrek,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo, 10 a.m., \$3

**Scream Acres Scream Park**, Atkins, 6:30 p.m., \$20-45

**Something Wicked This Way Comes: Jack the Ripper**, Granger House Museum, Maion, 7 p.m., Free-\$10

**Field of Screams**, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10

**Circle of Ash**, Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City, 8 p.m., \$5-20

**October Fright Nights: 'The Exorcist,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, 10 p.m., \$5

## 10/21

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Kids Dream Trick-or-Treat Halloween Party**, Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo, 9 a.m., \$3

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Shrek,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo, 10 a.m., \$3

**Spooky Skate**, Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 2 p.m., \$6-20

**Scream Acres Scream Park**, Atkins, 6:30 p.m., \$20-45

**Field of Screams**, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10

**Circle of Ash**, Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City, 8 p.m., \$5-20

**October Fright Nights: 'The Exorcist,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, 10 p.m., \$5

## 10/22

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Shrek,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo, 10 a.m., \$3

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 11 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Circle of Ash**, Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City, 8 p.m., \$5-35

## 10/23

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

## 10/24

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**CAB Haunted House**, Iowa Memorial Union, 7 p.m., Free

## 10/25

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Trick, Treat and Troll**, Waterloo Center for the Arts, 5 p.m., \$2-5

**Best of RiffTrax Live: 'Night of the Living Dead,'** Marcus Cinemas, Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$15

## 10/26

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Halloween Trivia**, Lion Bridge Brewing Company, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$10

**Circle of Ash**, Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City, 8 p.m., \$5-35

**October Fright Nights: 'Halloween,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls, 10 p.m., \$5

## 10/27

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Book of Life,'** Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo, 10 a.m., \$3

Dawn Frary

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LV  
LITTLE VILLAGE

**Creepy Campus Crawl**, *Old Capitol Museum, Iowa City*, 5:30 p.m., Free

**The Haunted Garage**, *Stoney Point, Cedar Rapids*, 6:30 p.m., Free

**Scream Acres Scream Park**, *Atkins*, 6:30 p.m., \$20-45

**Something Wicked This Way Comes: H.H. Holmes—Putting the Grangers in Danger**, *Granger House Museum, Marion*, 7 p.m., Free-\$10

**Field of Screams**, *Iowa City*, 7:30 p.m., \$10

**Circle of Ash**, *Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City*, 8 p.m., \$5-20

**'The Rocky Horror Picture Show,'** *NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids*, 8:30 p.m., \$15-20

**October Friday Nights: 'Halloween,'** *Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls*, 10 p.m., \$5

## 10/28

**Trick or Trot 5K**, *American Legion - Walcott*, 9 a.m., \$15-30

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, *Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins*, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Games from the Crypt!**, *Cedar Rapids Public Library*, 9:30 a.m., Free

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Book of Life,'** *Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo*, 10 a.m., \$3

**First Annual 5K Zombie Run**, *Hawkeye Downs Expo Center, Cedar Rapids*, 12 p.m., \$30-45

**365 Horror Films x Factory of Fear: 12 Hrs of Terror Vol. 6**, *Rozz-Tox, Rock Island*, 6 p.m., Free

**Scream Acres Scream Park**, *Atkins*, 6:30 p.m., \$20-45

**The Haunted Garage**, *Stoney Point, Cedar Rapids*, 6:30 p.m., Free

**Field of Screams**, *Iowa City*, 7:30 p.m., \$10

**Scary Stories on the Lawn**, *Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$5-8

**Circle of Ash**, *Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City*, 8 p.m., \$5-35

**'Halloween Salsa**, *Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls*, 9 p.m., \$5

**The Heartland Bombshells: Peepshow Creepshow**, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City*, 9 p.m., \$10-25

**October Flashlight Tours**, *Granger House Museum, Marion*, 9 p.m., \$20

**October Fright Nights: 'Halloween,'** *Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Cedar Falls*, 10 p.m., \$5

**'The Rocky Horror Picture Show,'** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City*, 11:50 p.m., \$18-20

## 10/29

**Kids Dream Not-So-Scary Halloween Series: 'Book of Life,'** *Marcus Cinemas, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Waterloo*, 10 a.m., \$3

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, *Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins*, 11 a.m., \$8.50-12

**Circle of Ash**, *Linn County Fairgrounds, Central City*, 8 p.m., \$5-35

**Rooftop: 'Scream,'** *FilmScene, Iowa City*, 8 p.m., \$15

## 10/30

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, *Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins*, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

## 10/31

**Bloomsbury Farm Corn Maze & Hayrides**, *Bloomsbury Farm, Atkins*, 9 a.m., \$8.50-12

**The Haunted Garage**, *Stoney Point, Cedar Rapids*, 6:30 p.m., Free

**October Flashlight Tours**, *Granger House Museum, Marion*, 7 p.m., \$20

Dawn Frary

# Helen Roberts wasn't famous until she was dead.

A student at Coe College in Cedar Rapids in 1918, Helen lived in the nicest dorm on campus, Voorhees Hall ("Voorhees Hall exemplifies something new in the construction of girls' dormitories," complete with laundry facilities and a pool, according to a 1915 newspaper story). It's also where she died.

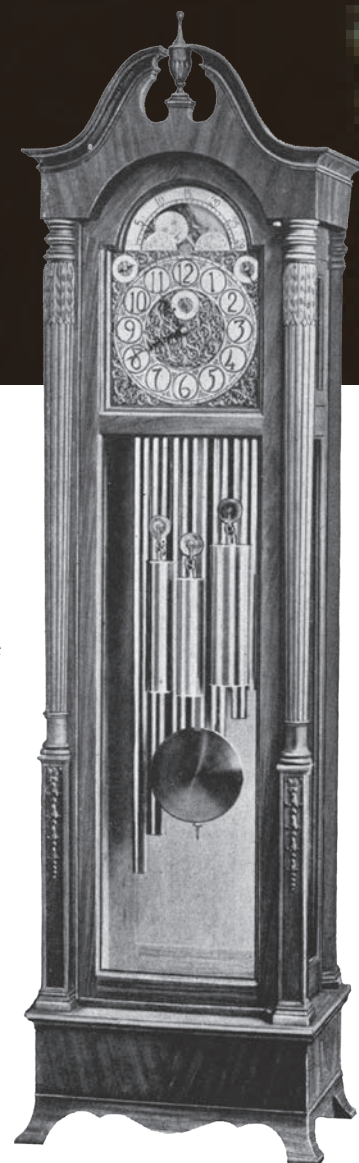
Helen has become Coe's ghostly mascot. Judging by the stories, Helen is less of a spectral menace and more of an annoying roommate. Generations of students have claimed Helen slams doors, stomps up the stairs, pulls off blankets and plays the piano in the dark hours before dawn.

But if ghostly Helen's half-hearted poltergeisting isn't particularly terrifying, what happened to the real flesh-and-blood Helen is.

Helen was one of the victims of the great influenza pandemic of 1918. The details of her death aren't recorded, but that doesn't matter—she died the same way the other victims did. It started with a sudden fever. A few days later, her lungs began filling with fluid. It became harder to breathe. Helen slowly drowned as she lay in bed. Less than two weeks after falling ill, Helen Roberts was dead.

The 1918 pandemic killed 50 million people worldwide, according to most estimates. That era's medical science was largely powerless against it. And there's no reason to feel safe just because medicine has advanced in the last 99 years. Experts agree that another lethal flu pandemic is almost inevitable, and that whatever flu strain is able to spread worldwide will be resistant to current treatments.

Just something to think about this Halloween, as you read about funding cuts for science ("Miracle Machines," pg. 12). LV / —Paul Brennan







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**Scream Acres Scream Park Atkins, Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 20-28, \$20-45** Only four more chances this year to explore the Scream Acres fear fest—and with as many different attractions as they offer, you may want to go more than once. Scream Acres, located at Bloomsbury Farm in Atkins, has four main haunts again this year: Cell Block Z, a zombie horror set in a prison; the classic cornfield, with scares around every corner; Carnival Chaos, 2,800 square feet of indoor maze; and the Slaughterhouse, with secret passageways galore. Tickets are priced per pair of attractions: \$20 for two or \$30 for four, with VIP options for \$35 and \$45, respectively, that allow ticket holders to bypass the lines, which can run as long as a 2-3 hour wait.



Dawn Frary

**The Black Angel** is a foreboding presence in Oakland Cemetery: a nearly-nine-foot-tall figure on a four-foot monument with outstretched wings and arms, a downturned face and helmet hair. Vandals have lobbed off most of her fingers, an act that, according to legend, leads to death. Non-virgins who dare kiss the statue are also assured an untimely demise, especially on Halloween.

Folklore aside, what makes the Black Angel so—weird? Well, it's not the ethereal image Americans are used to seeing at gravesites. The sculpture was the brainchild of two Czech-Bohemian immigrants: artist Mario Korbel and commissioner Theresa Dolezal Feldvert, who wanted the piece to look down upon the grave of her late son Eddie (buried under the statue of a tree stump to the angel's right).

The Black Angel, originally bronze, cuts a dreary figure common in Eastern Europe cemeteries in the 1910s, though even Feldvert allegedly found it a little off-putting. Still, she and her second husband Nicholas are buried at the Black Angel's feet.

Its transition to black has been attributed to everything from Feldvert's rumored infidelity to murders committed by the angel itself. The less superstitious would tell you it's the natural result of bronze oxidization. During Halloween season, we'd rather believe the former. LV / —Emma McClatchey



# WITCHING HOUR

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### What's the future of our country and how did we get here?

*The Witching Hour* invites a more robust engagement with the state of American Politics. In a political world filled with lies, this track provides access to creative ways of encountering and encouraging the kinds of political truth that cannot fit on a screen.

- Hari Kondabolu (comedian, political satire) 10/20, 9 p.m.
- The Witchdoctor Sheriff Will See You Now (Baynard Woods, political columnist) 10/21, 1 p.m.
- Youth Rising: Empowering the Next Generation to Speak Truth to Power (film, dance, reading & discussion) 10/21, 2 p.m.
- Tom Tomorrow: 25 Years of Tomorrow (political cartoonist) 10/21, 4 p.m.
- Field Noise (podcast from Craig Eley) 10/21, 5 p.m.
- Talibam! presents: Osmotic Imagination (music & photography) 10/21, 11 p.m.

### What's the American experience for a person of color today?

*The Race and Gender in America* track continues and deepens one of last year's most powerful and popular themes by collecting some of the best and most innovative artists in America who reflect the challenges and delights of their particular embodied experiences in beautiful ways.

- Somewhere is Here: Tameka J Norris (performance, photography) 10/20, 4 p.m.
- Danez Smith and the Writers of Color Reading Series (literature) 10/20, 5 p.m.
- Broad Perspectives II: The Sankofa Outreach Connection (discussion) 10/20, 6:30 p.m.
- Invisible & Ignored: A Panel Discussion with Women of Color from Iowa City (discussion) 10/21, 12:30 p.m.
- Kaleidoscope: A Decolonization (Tymika Lawrence, performance) 10/21, 2 p.m.
- Youth Rising: Empowering the Next Generation to Speak Truth to Power (film, dance, reading, discussion) 10/21, 2 p.m.
- Freedom is a Feeling in the Tongue: Tameka Cage Conley (scholar) 10/21, 3:30 p.m.
- Kiese Laymon and the Writers of Color Reading Series (literature) 10/21, 5 p.m.

### What's the future of our planet?

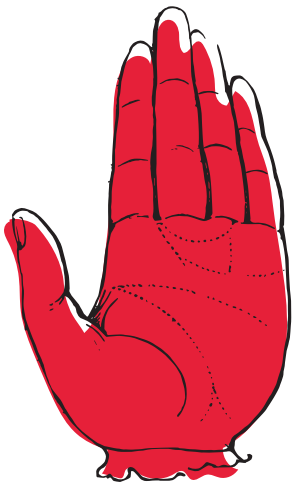
*We live at the dawning of the Age of Apocalypse: 2017 has been a year of flood and flame as our planet has responded to human demands with huge devastations. From the micro level of local bees to the cosmic level of DJ Spooky, this track provides a multisensory understanding of our environment.*

- Adam's Run: A video opera about climate change by Rhymes With Opera (film, music) 10/20, 3 p.m.
- DJ Spooky: *Explorer I Remix* (music, premiere performance) 10/20, 7 p.m.
- Talibam! Endgame of the Anthropocene (music) 10/20, 10 p.m.
- Honey & Mass Extinction: What every Iowan should know about the state's bee population with Paulina Mena (scholar) 10/21, 2:30 p.m.
- Will Hunt: The Burrowers (writer) 10/21, 3 p.m.
- It Devours! A forthcoming noir-esque mystery exploring faith and science by the creators of Welcome to Night Vale (literature) 10/21, 4:30 p.m.

### National Issues in Our Local Context

*This track invites audiences to think through the unknown ways that local engagement truly matters. From questions of race to education to the environment, the presentations in this track empower participants toward making discrete changes, here, with the promise of helping to construct a better future.*

- Local Media: Rising from the Dead? With Susan Patterson Plank (presentation) 10/20, 4 p.m.
- Reimagining Elementary Education: Empowering the Next Generation to Flourish (film & discussion) 10/20, 5:30 p.m.
- Invisible & Ignored: A Panel Discussion with Women of Color from Iowa City (discussion) 10/21, 12:30 p.m.
- Youth Rising: Empowering the Next Generation to Speak Truth to Power (film, dance, reading, discussion) 10/21, 2 p.m.
- Honey & Mass Extinction: What every Iowan should know about the state's bee population with Paulina Mena (scholar) 10/21, 2:30 p.m.
- The Future of Higher Education: A Community Course Evaluation of The Green Room with David Gould (discussion) 10/21, 5 p.m.
- Broad Perspectives II: The Sankofa Outreach Connection (discussion) 10/21, 6:30 p.m.



## *A FESTIVAL EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN, DISCUSSING CREATIVE PROCESS, AND PRESENTING NEW WORK*

The curators of the Witching Hour have arranged a series of tracks to highlight the hope at the heart of the festival: that encountering the unknown within particular, relevant issues will inspire individuals to become more innovative in their questioning and creating. Perhaps most importantly, the nature of the tracks as paths to the unknown will cause audiences along different tracks to converge, promoting possibilities through cross-pollination of ideas. Finally, they're intentionally non-sequential and stand alone opportunities, which allow audience members to pursue different paths at different times without missing a necessary piece.

### **How we equip the next generation**

*Changing technologies tend to give the illusion of progress—but while there are clear advantages to using smart boards instead of film strips, the assumptions that guide what learning is and how we do it too often remain unthought.*

- Giving Out Superpowers: A Discussion of Ethics, Cognitive Processes, and the Future of Interactive Technology with Juan Pablo Hourcade (scholar) 10/20, 5:30 p.m.
- Reimagining Elementary Education: Empowering the Next Generation to Flourish (film & discussion) 10/20, 5:30 p.m.
- The Future of Higher Education: A Community Course Evaluation of The Green Room with David Gould (discussion) 10/21, 5 p.m.
- Youth Rising: Empowering the Next Generation to Speak Truth to Power (film, dance, reading, discussion) 10/21, 2 p.m.

### **Technology/ Entrepreneurship/Building a Creative Career**

*For those who dream of a life more fulfilling than what middle management might allow and a reality in which one can honor the creative drive and still manage to pay bills, this track features refreshing approaches to career paths. It examines how to create careers, how careers can be their own work of creativity—and how technology allows this to occur.*

- Composing a Career: Nadia Sirota (violinist) 10/20, 5 p.m.
- Giving Out Superpowers: A Discussion of Ethics, Cognitive Processes, and the Future of Interactive Technology with Juan Pablo Hourcade (scholar) 10/20, 5:30 p.m.
- #NYFWIA: Two Iowa Designers Crash NYC Fashion Week (documentary, discussion) 10/21, 2:30 p.m.
- An Evening with Cey Adams: Def Jam and Beyond (artist, graphic designer) 10/21, 7:30 p.m.
- Brimstone & Glory (documentary) 10/21, 9 p.m.

### **Expanding Your Own Creative Capacity**

*These workshops, performances, and presentations allow audiences different ways to interrupt everyday thinking and regain familiarity with the elusive parts of the self that foster creativity. Each session will help free the audience from ruts and become attuned to otherwise unfamiliar modes of thinking, making new platforms from which innovative thought can become familiar.*

- Creative Confessional with Jami Milne (photo booth) 10/20, 3 p.m. & 7 p.m., 10/21, 10 a.m.
- Composing a Career: Nadia Sirota (violinist) 10/20, 5 p.m.
- Gong Bath and Sound Healing Meditation with Doug Mills (workshop) 10/21, 10 a.m.
- Risk Taking & the Authentic Self with Saffron Henke and Kristy Hartsgrrove Mooers (workshop) 10/21, 12 p.m.
- Finding Honey in the Rock: A Workshop of Obsession with Danez Smith (workshop) 10/21, 12 p.m.
- #NYFWIA: Two Iowa Designers Crash NYC Fashion Week (documentary, discussion) 10/21, 2:30 p.m.
- Tom Tomorrow: 25 Years of Tomorrow (political cartoonist) 10/21, 4 p.m.
- An Evening with Cey Adams: Def Jam and Beyond (artist, graphic designer) 10/21, 7:30 p.m.

### **Deep Culture Dive**

*One reason why Witching Hour has become a favorite among performers is its knack for attracting the kinds of artists that innovative talent listens to. This year is no different: Beyond the top 40 hits are musicians who will remind you of the first time you heard what became your favorite band, or the book that made you decide to write a movie.*

- DJ Spooky: *Explorer I Remix* (music, premiere performance) 10/20, 7 p.m.
- Danez Smith and the Writers of Color Reading Series (literature) 10/20, 5 p.m.
- Talibam! (performance) 10/20, 10 p.m., 10/21, 11 p.m.
- Nadia Sirota (performance) 10/21, 7:30 p.m.
- Yves Tumor (performance) 10/22, 12 a.m.

# LITERATURE

## 10/18

**The Power of Story—Session 1/5: the Science of Story,**  
*Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$275/course*  
**Bradford Morrow,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City,*  
*7 p.m., Free*  
**Paul's Book Club,** *Iowa City Public Library, Iowa City,*  
*7:30 p.m., Free*

## 10/20

**2017 International Authors Series: Emo—The Mode of High Emotion,** *Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free*  
**Witching Hour: Writers of Color Reading Series, The Englert Theatre,** *Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40-65*  
**The Fundamentals of Fiction w/ Keith Lesmeister—Session 1/3,** *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$265/course*

## 10/21

**The Fundamentals of Fiction w/ Keith Lesmeister—Session 2/3,** *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$265/course*  
**Witching Hour: The Witchdoctor Sheriff Will See You Now,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$40-65*  
**Witching Hour: It Devours!,** *Iowa City Public Library, 4:30 p.m., Free*  
**Witching Hour: Writers of Color Reading Series, RADinc.,** *Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40-65*

## 10/22

**The Fundamentals of Fiction w/ Keith Lesmeister—Session 3/3,** *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$265/course*

## 10/23

**Dr. Ramon Lim,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

## 10/24

**Antoinette Tidjani Alou,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

## 10/25

**The Power of Story—Session 2/5: the Energy of Story,**  
*Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$275/course*  
**Carol Sanger,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

## 10/27

**2017 International Authors Series: Images of America,**  
*Iowa City Public Library, 12 p.m., Free*

## 10/31

**Tori Telfer,** *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*



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Jason Smith / Little Village

**Witching Hour: #NYFWIA—Two Iowa Designers Crash NYC Fashion Week, Merge, Iowa City, 2:30 p.m., \$40-65** Two Iowa designers went to New York Fashion Week this year with a camera crew, a new collection and a dream. Join Andre' Wright of Born Leaders United and Emily Carlson of Written Apparel as they present their New Perspective collection and screen *New Perspective*, the documentary about their experiences filmed by *Little Village* videographer Jason Smith and produced by *Little Village*, ICAD Group, Buzz Salon and Nolte Academy.



## ARTS, CRAFTS & EXHIBITIONS

### 10/18

**Knitting: Loop Shawl—Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$55/course**

### 10/19

**Nooks and Crannies Tour, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 5:30 p.m., \$10-20**

**Mixed Media Mantras Workshop, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 6 p.m., Free**

**School of Sewing Part I—Session 2/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$85/course**

### 10/20

**Witching Hour: Creative Confessional, Pedestrian Mall, Iowa City, 3 & 7 p.m., Free**

**Witching Hour: 'Somewhere Is Here: Sumter County, Alabama,' RADinc., Iowa City, 4 p.m., \$40-65**

**Opening Reception: 'Framework,' National Juried Exhibition, Gilded Pear Gallery, Cedar Rapids, 5 p.m., Free**

### 10/21

**Witching Hour: Creative Confessional, Pedestrian Mall, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free**

**Wire Wrapped Spider—Family Friendly Class, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m., \$48**

**Iowa City Press Co-Op: Monotype Printing, Public Space One, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$80**

**Knitting: Learn to Knit Two-at-a-time Top-down Socks—Session 1/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$60/course**

**Witching Hour: #NYFWIA—Two Iowa Designers Crash NYC Fashion Week, Merge, Iowa City, 2:30 p.m., \$40-65**

**Wine & Design: Build a Terrarium, Moss, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$50**

### 10/22

**Midwest Antiques Show, Hawkeye Downs Expo Center, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., \$8**

**Life Drawing & Painting 101 Workshop, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 12:30 p.m., \$50**

**Next Steps in Hollow Glass: Implosion Pendant, Beadology, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$98**

**Iowa City Press Co-Op: Engraving Plexiglass for Intaglio—Session 1/2, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$92/course**

**Bronze Clay Beads, Beadology, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$98**

### 10/23

**Knitting: Oak Park Shawl—Session 2/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:15 p.m., \$50/course**

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

### 10/24

**Intro to Cubed Right Angle Weave (CRAW) through Kirkwood Community College, Beadology, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$58**

**Quilt Start to Finish: Four Winds Quilt—Session 1/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$85/course**

### 10/26

**Nooks and Crannies Tour, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 5:30 p.m., \$10-20**

**School of Sewing Part I—Session 3/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$85/course**

### 10/27

**Deadline: 6th Annual Bead Challenge, Beadology, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$25**

### 10/28

**Knock Off Wrapped Bracelet, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$58**

**Falcons, Freedom, and Backflips: A Guided Tour of 'Twists and Turns: The Story of Sokol,' National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., Free w/ Admission**

**Knitting: Learn to Knit Two-at-a-time Top-down Socks—Session 2/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$60/course**

**Wire Bail Techniques, Beadology, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$48**  
**Wine & Design: Succulent Bowl Garden, Moss, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$65**

### 10/29

**Teneriffe Embroidery Earrings, Beadology, Iowa City, 11 a.m., \$108**

**Life Drawing & Painting 101 Workshop, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 12:30 p.m., \$50**

**Iowa City Press Co-Op: Engraving Plexiglass for Intaglio—Session 2/2, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$92/course**

### 10/30

**Knitting: Oak Park Shawl—Session 3/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:15 p.m., \$50/course**

### 10/31

**Quilt Start to Finish: Four Winds Quilt—Session 2/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$85/course**

# FOOD & DRINK

## 10/19

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

## 10/20

**Cider Sip and Shop, New Bo  
District, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m.,  
Free**

## 10/24

**Pizza from Scratch with New Pi's  
Baker Chad Clark, New Pioneer  
Food Co-op Coralville, 6 p.m., \$20**

## 10/25

**Food Tour of Historic Czech Village,  
National Czech & Slovak Museum  
& Library, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m.,  
\$20-25**



**Cider Sip and Shop New Bo District, Cedar Rapids, Friday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m., Free** For three hours on the evening of Oct. 20, shoppers have an extra incentive to wander the picturesque New Bohemia district of Cedar Rapids: the district's first Cider Sip and Shop. With a fall chill finally starting to nip at night, there's no better time to enjoy the various hard and soft ciders that businesses will have out for sampling. Other treats will be available as well. It's also a great opportunity to get a jumpstart on any holiday shopping, or at least scope out what the local retail scene has to offer. Luminaries will light the way to participating stores. Photo by Rebecca Siegel

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Kick off the holiday shopping season with  
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for sale by the finest Midwest artists.

Supported in part by a City of Waterloo Hotel-Motel Tax Grant

## CINEMA

**10/18**

**New Release Films: 'Dolores,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**'Saving Brinton,'** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**New Release Films: 'Columbus,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**10/19**

**New Release Films: 'Dolores,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:30, 6 & 8:15 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**'Saving Brinton,'** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:45 & 5:45 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**New Release Films: 'Columbus,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**10/20**

**Witching Hour: Adam's Run—A**

**Video Opera by Rhymes With Opera,**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 3 p.m., \$40-65*

**10/21**

**Filmmaker Spotlight: 'Blood Stripe,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$6.50-7.50*

**Witching Hour: Vito Verité—**

**'Brimstone & Glory,'** *FilmScene, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$25-65*

**10/22**

**Filmmaker Spotlight: 'Blood Stripe,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$6.50-7.50*

**Vito Verité: 'Brimstone & Glory,'**

*FilmScene, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$25*

**10/28**

**Orchestra Iowa Presents:**

**'Casablanca,'** *Paramount Theatre*

*Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$18-54*

## SPORTS

**10/18**

**Wednesday Night 'Cross Practice!,**

*Daniels Park, Cedar Rapids, 5 p.m., Free*

**Quad City Mallards vs. Tulsa Oilers,**

*TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 6:35 p.m., \$10-80*

**10/20**

**Cedar Rapids RoughRiders vs. Lincoln**

**Stars,** *Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7:05 p.m., \$10.75-35.75*

**10/21**

**Cedar Rapids RoughRiders vs. Central**

**Illinois Flying Aces,** *Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7:05 p.m., \$10.75-35.75*

**10/25**

**Wednesday Night 'Cross Practice!,**

*Daniels Park, Cedar Rapids, 5 p.m., Free*

**10/27**

**Quad City Mallards vs. Idaho**

**Steelheads,** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7:05 p.m., \$10-80*

**10/28**

**Monster Jam, US Cellular Center,**

*Cedar Rapids, 1 & 7 p.m., \$18-48*

**Quad City Mallards vs. Idaho**

**Steelheads,** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7:05 p.m., \$10-80*

**Iowa Hawkeyes vs. Minnesota Golden**

**Gophers,** *Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City, Kickoff time TBD, \$80*

**10/29**

**Monster Jam, US Cellular Center,**

*Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., \$18-48*



# ART & THE AFTERLIFE

## Fantasy Coffins by Eric Adjetye Anang

**SEPTEMBER 16-DECEMBER 10, 2017**

Black Box Theater, Iowa Memorial Union

Support for the exhibition is provided by the Members Special Exhibition Fund

Eric Adjetye Anang (Ghanaian, 1985- )

Mami Wata Coffin

Northern white pine, acrylic paint, satin

fabric, and magnets

74 x 29 x 43 in.

UIMA School Programs Collections, AAS.56

Photo by Steve Erickson



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Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the UIMA in advance at 319-335-1727.





**Is This What Democracy Looks Like?** Iowa City Public Library, Sunday, Oct. 29, 12 p.m., Free Midwest Telegraph presents this conference exploring the relationship between social activists and the media, and the groups' responsibilities to each other. The afternoon kicks off with lunch and a panel discussion with media and activist leaders in the Iowa City community, including *Little Village* News Director Lauren Shotwell, Political Party Live's Simeon Talley, Christine Nobiss of Indigenous Iowa and more. The event then moves on to breakout sessions on such topics as media literacy and brainstorming next steps. Midwest Telegraph encourages independent, collaborative media. This event is free to the public; reservations are encouraged.

## COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

### 10/18

**Algorithms: The Personal Is Political—An Obermann Conversation**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free  
**Journalism and a Free Press in the Age of Fake News**, *Merge*, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free  
**History at the Grove: 'Ancient & Medieval Beer, Hops, & Preservatives,'** *Big Grove Brewery & Taproom*, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free

### 10/19

**Science on Tap: What Lurks at the Core of the Milky Way**, *Hancher*, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free

### 10/20

**Witching Hour: Local Media—Rising From The Dead?**, *Iowa City Public Library*, 4 p.m., Free  
**Witching Hour: Composing A Career**, *Voxman Music Building*, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40-65

**Witching Hour: 'Giving Out Superpowers'—A Discussion of Ethics, Cognitive Processes and the Future of Interactive Technology w/ Juan Pablo Hourcade**, *Merge*, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Empowering the Next Generation to Flourish—Reimagining Early Elementary Education**, *Iowa City Public Library*, 5:30 p.m., Free  
**Witching Hour: Broad Perspectives II: The Sankofa Outreach Connection**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$40-65

### 10/21

**Witching Hour: Doorway to Intuition—Gong Bath and Sound Healing Meditation w/ Doug Mills**, *The Englert Theatre*, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$40-65

**Witching Hour: Risk Taking & the Authentic Self**, *Merge*, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Finding Honey in the Rock—A Workshop of Obsession**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Invisible and Ignored—The Power of Centering the Voices and Experiences of Women of Color Through Art, Written Expression, Film and Leadership**, *Iowa City Public Library*, 12:30 p.m., Free  
**Witching Hour: Kaleidoscope—A Decolonization**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Honey & Mass Extinction—What Every Iowan Should Know About the State's Bee Population**, *Iowa City Public Library*, 2:30 p.m., Free  
**Witching Hour: The Burrowers**, *The Mill*, Iowa City, 3 p.m., \$40-65

**Witching Hour: Freedom is a Feeling in the Tongue**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 3:30 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Tom Tomorrow—25 Years of Tomorrow**, *The Englert Theatre*, Iowa City, 4 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: Field Noise**, *The Mill*, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: The Future of Higher Education—A Course Evaluation & Planning Session for The Green Room**, *Merge*, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40-65  
**Witching Hour: An Evening w/ Cey Adams—Def Jam and Beyond**, *RADinc.*, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$40-65

### 10/22

**New Pioneer Annual Co-op Owner Meeting & Potluck**, *Terry Trueblood Recreation Area*, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free

### 10/24

**Ballet Film Series: 'George Balanchine Part III,'** *The Senior Center*, Iowa City, 1 p.m., Free

# THEATRE & PERFORMANCE

**10/25**

LWVJC: North Liberty Council  
Candidate Forum for General  
Election, North Liberty City  
Council Chamber, 7 p.m., Free

**10/26**

LWVJC: North Liberty Council  
Candidate Forum for General  
Election, North Liberty City  
Council Chamber, 7 p.m., Free

**10/28**

Nature Explore Workshops,  
Indian Creek Nature Center,  
Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., \$10-20

**10/29**

Is This What Democracy Looks  
Like?, Iowa City Public Library,  
12 p.m., Free

**10/18**

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise  
Up, O Men,' Old Creamery Theatre,  
Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

**10/19**

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise  
Up, O Men,' Old Creamery Theatre,  
Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

**10/20**

Witching Hour: New Voices in  
Comedy, The Mill, Iowa City, 7:30  
p.m., \$40-65

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise  
Up, O Men,' Old Creamery Theatre,  
Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$12-31

'Dead Man's Cell Phone,' Theatre  
Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$19-24

Jimmy Pardo w/ Ken Schultz,  
Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar  
Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-22.50

Pang!, Legion Arts CSPA Hall,  
Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$18-22

'One Man, Two Guvnors,' Giving Tree  
Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$15-120  
Witching Hour: Hari Kondabolu, The  
Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 9 p.m.,  
\$20-65

**10/21**

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise  
Up, O Men,' Old Creamery Theatre,  
Amana, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$12-31

Witching Hour: Youth Rising, Englert  
Theatre, 2 p.m., \$40-65

Pang!, Legion Arts CSPA Hall,  
Cedar Rapids, 4 & 8 p.m., \$18-22

'Dead Man's Cell Phone,' Theatre  
Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$19-24

Witching Hour: Jak Knight, The Mill,  
Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-65

Jimmy Pardo w/ Ken Schultz,  
Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar  
Rapids, 8 p.m., \$20-22.50

'One Man, Two Guvnors,' Giving Tree  
Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$15-120

Witching Hour: Aparna Nancherla,  
The Englert Theatre, Iowa City,  
9:30 p.m., \$15-65

**10/22**

'One Man, Two Guvnors,' Giving Tree  
Theater, Marion, 2 p.m., \$15-120  
Burlesque Basics w/ Auralie Wilde—  
Session 5/5, RADinc., Iowa City, 2  
p.m., \$90/course

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise  
Up, O Men,' Old Creamery Theatre,  
Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

'Dead Man's Cell Phone,' Theatre  
Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$19-24

Hannibal Buress, Woolly's, Des  
Moines, 8 p.m., \$35-45

**10/24**

World of Dance Live!, Paramount  
Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m.,  
\$59.50-185

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FRI 20 | 8:30

**FLASH IN A  
PAN**

FRI 27 | 8:30

**PLASTIC  
RELATIONS**

SAT 28 | AFTER GAME

**GOOSE TOWN**

SAT 4 | AFTER GAME

**RIVER GLEN**

THURS 9 | 8:30

**THE GO ROUNDS**

FRI 10 | 9:00

**HOLIDAY ROAD  
BAND**

SAT 11 | 9:00

**MATT WOODS**

THURS 16 | 7:30

**FREE LIVE MUSIC IOWA CITY**



New York City Ballet: 'Moves,' Hancher, Iowa City,  
7:30 p.m., \$20-80

## 10/25

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men,' Old  
Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

New York City Ballet: 'Moves,' Hancher, Iowa City,  
7:30 p.m., \$20-80

World of Dance Live!, Adler Theatre, Davenport,  
7:30 p.m., \$35-65

## 10/26

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men,' Old  
Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

## 10/27

'Dead Man's Cell Phone,' Theatre Cedar Rapids,  
7:30 p.m., \$19-24

Iowa City Community Theatre Presents: 'She Kills  
Monsters,' Johnson County Fairgrounds, Iowa City,  
7:30 p.m., \$9-17

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

'The Iowa Goatsinger: Near Fear,' First Street  
Community Center, Mt Vernon, 7:30 p.m., \$10

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men,' Old  
Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$12-31

Elliott Threatt w/ Phil Johnson, Penguin's Comedy  
Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$12-15

Martin Moreno: Gabriel Iglesias Comedy Tour & Fluffy  
Breaks Even, First Avenue Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m.,  
\$10

## 10/28

Dirty Dancing, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 2 & 7:30  
p.m., \$40.50-68

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men,' Old  
Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$12-31

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

Iowa City Community Theatre Presents: 'She Kills  
Monsters,' Johnson County Fairgrounds, Iowa City,  
7:30 p.m., \$9-17

'Dead Man's Cell Phone,' Theatre Cedar Rapids,  
7:30 p.m., \$19-24

Elliott Threatt w/ Phil Johnson, Penguin's Comedy  
Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$12-15

Girls Night Out: The Show, First Avenue Club, Iowa  
City, 8 p.m., \$19.95-189.95

## 10/29

'The Church Basement Ladies in Rise Up, O Men,' Old  
Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31

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**MONDAYS** Open Mic, The Mill, Iowa City, Free, 8 p.m.  
Honeycombs of Comedy, Iowa City Yacht Club, \$3, 10 p.m.

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

**WEDNESDAYS** Food Truck Wednesday, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 11 a.m. Late Nights at NCSML, National Czech & Slovak

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

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

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

**FRIDAYS** Friday Night Out, Ceramics Center, Cedar Rapids, \$40 6:30 p.m. FAC Dance Party, The

Union, Iowa City, 7 p.m. Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, \$5, 10:30 p.m. SoulShake, Gabe's, Iowa City, Free, 10 p.m.

## SATURDAYS

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

## SUNDAYS

Weekend Brunch, Atlas Restaurant, Iowa City, 8 a.m. Board Games 'n' Brews, The Mill, Iowa City, 2 p.m. Pride Bingo, Studio 13, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m. Pub Quiz, The Mill, Iowa City, \$1, 9 p.m.



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## THE STRAIGHT DOPE BY CECIL ADAMS

**Can friends and family video-conference with prisoners? I know prisoners have access to phones and can have visitors, but it seems like video would also make it easier to keep in touch. —Filmore, via the Straight Dope Message Board**

**H**eck of an idea you've got there, Filmore. Know who else is a fan of video visitation, as it's called? Good old Joe Arpaio, late of the Maricopa County, Arizona, sheriff's department, where he gained a reputation for ghastly human rights abuses before being voted out of office and convicted of contempt (and subsequently pardoned by Donald Trump). Arpaio called video visitation "a win for everyone involved," and while we live in a complex world with few easy answers, I'd suggest you couldn't find a more reliable rule of thumb than: if Sheriff Joe's for it, be wary.

And indeed, video visitation is far from the simple convenience it might appear to be. Let's thumb through *Screening Out Family Time*, a 2015 report by the nonprofit think tank Prison Policy Initiative (PPI), which elucidates some objections to what the organization calls the "for-profit video visitation industry":

**This ain't Skype.** Or FaceTime, either.

If you're picturing high-quality video service, forget it—this is "poorly designed" technology, according to the report's authors, plagued with complaints about crappy connections. That's particularly a problem for friends and relatives trying to connect from home: Video visitation is typically free when using dedicated visitor terminals at correctional facilities, but anyone logging on remotely is paying handsomely for the terrible service.

Even if the tech were to get sorted out on the provider's end, consider the customer. PPI cites a Bureau of Justice Statistics survey of previously incarcerated people in which 86 percent of respondents reported an income of less than \$25,000—in other words, folks from families unlikely to have access to the decent computers and reliable bandwidth a good video link requires.

**In-person visits work.** Most of these video schemes have been implemented at county jails, rather than prisons, which seems exactly backwards: Unlike state prisons, jails aren't the kinds of places that generally require loved ones to travel long distances for a visit. And video visitation isn't supplementing in-person visits, as ideally it should; it's replacing it altogether. In 74 percent of jails, PPI found, in-person visits were no longer permitted after video visits were implemented—in at least some cases, at the request of the contractor responsible for the video technology.

Why does this matter? Because "family contact," PPI writes, "is one of the surest ways to

reduce the likelihood that an individual will re-offend," so it's something that jails and prisons should want to facilitate, not discourage. (Unlike jails, prisons seem to recognize this: PPI found "virtually no state prisons" that had eliminated in-person visitation.) Even a single visit to an incarcerated offender has been shown to reduce the chance of recidivism by 13 percent. But beyond any technical challenges, video makes visitation difficult.

**It's really expensive.** This is the big one, and opens the door to tons of broader issues. Video visitation is administered by external contractors, who charge out the nose for the service—in some cases, up to \$1.50 a minute. Again, sometimes these companies will stipulate in their contracts that in-person visits be banned—hey, they're bad for business.

This is of a piece with how all sorts of carceral services have been privatized—and at great cost to inmates and their families. It's a tremendous racket: The companies make piles of money, the facilities get a kickback and the fees can be set at extortionate levels while the services provided are lousy—after all, the contractors have a literally captive consumer base and in many cases a near lock on the market. Sending money to an incarcerated pal? That's another way these companies make a buck. The Center for Public Integrity found transmission fees of up to 45 percent in some states; they mention one Tennessee woman who pays a total of \$70 just to send \$50 to her son in the clink. And remember, that's money inmates' relatives don't typically have; more than a third of families with an incarcerated loved one go into debt paying for visits and phone calls *alone*.

As you might guess, those calls aren't cheap either. In fact, in 2013 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced rules capping inmate phone fees, citing, for instance, charges up to \$17 for a 15-minute call. Who would argue against sensible government regulation like that, right? Well, one commissioner did dissent from the ruling: Ajit Pai, who (you can't make it up) now leads the agency, promoted to the chairman's job by Donald Trump. The companies levying the sky-high fees sued, of course, and earlier this year, with Pai in charge, the FCC ceased its legal defense of the rate caps. In June, an appeals court ruled that the FCC didn't have the authority to regulate inmate phone charges, which could go on being exorbitant. So sure, video conferencing's a great service, just like inmate phone calls—provided you're the one hooking up the cables. **LV**



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## ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNY

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Simon & Garfunkel released their first album in October 1964. It received only a modest amount of airplay. The two musicians were so discouraged that they stopped working together. Then Bob Dylan's producer Tom Wilson got permission to remix "The Sound of Silence," a song on the album. He added rock instruments and heavy echo to Simon & Garfunkel's folk arrangement. When the tune was re-released in September 1965, it became a huge hit. I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because I suspect you're now at a point comparable to the time just before Tom Wilson discovered the potential of "The Sound of Silence."

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Consider how hard it is to change yourself," wrote author Jacob M. Braude, "and you'll understand what little chance you have in trying to change others." Ninety-nine percent of the time, I'd advise you and everybody else to surrender to that counsel as if it were an absolute truth. But I think you Sagittarians will be the exception to the rule in the coming weeks. More than usual, you'll have the power to change yourself. And if you succeed, your self-transformations will be likely to trigger interesting changes in people around you. Here's another useful tip, also courtesy of Jacob M. Braude: "Behave like a duck. Keep calm and unruffled on the surface, but paddle like the devil underneath."

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 1969, two earthlings walked on the moon for the first time. To ensure that astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed there and returned safely, about 400,000 people labored and cooperated for many years. I suspect that in the coming months, you may be drawn to a collaborative project that's not as ambitious as NASA's, but nevertheless fueled by a grand plan and a big scope. And according to my astrological calculations, you will have even more ability than usual to be a driving force in such a project. Your power to inspire and organize group efforts will be at a peak.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I predict your ambitions will burn more steadily in the coming months, and will produce more heat and light than ever before. You'll have a clearer conception of exactly what it is you want to accomplish, as well as a growing certainty of the resources and help you'll need to accomplish it. Hooray and hallelujah! But keep this in mind, Aquarius: As you acquire greater access to meaningful success—not just the kind of success that merely impresses other people—you'll be required to take on more responsibility. Can you handle that? I think you can.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): What's your top conspiracy theory? Does it revolve around the Illuminati, the occult group that is supposedly plotting to abolish all nations and create a world government? Or does it involve the stealthy invasion by extraterrestrials who are allegedly seizing mental control over human political leaders and influencing them to wage endless war and wreck the environment? Or is your pet conspiracy theory more personal? Maybe you secretly believe, for instance, that the difficult events you experienced in the past were so painful and debilitating that they will forever prevent you from fulfilling your fondest dream. Well, Pisces. I'm here to tell you that whatever conspiracy theory you most tightly embrace is ready to be disproven once and for all. Are you willing to be relieved of your delusions?

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): "I am my own muse," wrote painter Frida Kahlo. "I am the subject I know best. The subject I want to know better." Would you consider trying out this perspective for a while, Aries? If so, you might generate a few ticklish surprises. You may be led into mysterious areas of your psyche that had previously been off-limits. You could discover secrets you've been hiding from yourself. So what would it mean to be your own muse? What exactly would you do? Here are some examples. Flirt with yourself in the mirror. Ask yourself impatient, insouciant questions. Have imaginary conversations

with the person you were three years ago and the person you'll be in three years.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): "Happiness comes from getting what you want," said poet Stephen Levine, whereas joy comes "from being who you really are." According to my analysis, the coming weeks will bear a higher potential for joy than for happiness. I'm not saying you won't get anything you want. But I do suspect that focusing on getting what you want might sap energy from the venture that's more likely to thrive: an unprecedented awakening to the truth of who you really are.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Sigmund Freud was a medical doctor who laid the groundwork for psychoanalysis. Throughout the 20th century, his radical, often outrageous ideas were a major influence on Western culture. When Freud was 50, he discovered a brilliant psychiatrist who would become his prize pupil: Carl Jung. When the two men first met in Vienna in 1907, they conversed without a break for 13 consecutive hours. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you could experience a comparable immersion sometime soon: a captivating involvement with a new influence, a provocative exchange that enchants you or a fascinating encounter that shifts your course.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): In the next 12 months, I hope to help you track down new pleasures and amusements that teach you more about what you want out of life. I will also be subtly reminding you that all the world's a stage and will advise you on how to raise your self-expression to Oscar-worthy levels. As for romance, here's my prescription between now and October 2018: The more compassion you cultivate, the more personal love you will enjoy. If you lift your generosity to a higher octave, there'll be another perk, too: You will be host to an enhanced flow of creative ideas.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Are you interested in diving down to explore the mysterious and evocative depths? Would you be open to spending more time than usual cultivating peace and stillness in a sanctuary? Can you sense the rewards that will become available if you pay reverence to influences that nurture your wild soul? I hope you'll be working on projects like these in the coming weeks, Leo. You'll be in a phase when the single most important gift you can give yourself is to remember what you're made of and how you got made.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Louisa May Alcott wrote a novel entitled *A Long Fatal Love Chase*, which was regarded as too racy to be published until a century after her death. "In the books I read, the sinners are always more interesting than the saints," says Alcott's heroine, Rosamund, "and in real life good people are dismally dull." I boldly predict that in the coming months, Virgo, you won't provide evidence to support Rosamund's views. You'll be even more interesting than you usually are and will also gather more than your usual quota of joy and self-worth—but without having to wake up even once with your clothes torn and your head lying in a gutter after a night of forlorn debauchery.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A woman I know, Caeli La, was thinking about relocating from Denver to Brooklyn. She journeyed across country and visited a prime neighborhood in her potential new headquarters. Here's what she reported on her Facebook page: "In the last three days, I've seen three different men on separate occasions wearing sundresses. So this is definitely the right place for me." What sort of signs and omens would tell you what you need to do to be in the right place at the right time, Libra? I urge you to be on the lookout for them in the coming weeks. Life will be conspiring to provide you with clues about where you can feel at peace, at home and in the groove. L V /





## ILLINOIS JOHN FEVER

*Out Here Nobody Knows*

facebook.com/illinoisjohnfever/

Illinois John Fever are a country blues band that has been knocking around Iowa City for over a decade. The current incarnation is Sean Preciado Genell on vocals and guitar, Bob Hall on drums and Craig Klocke on guitar and dobro. (Full disclosure: Genell has contributed stories to *Little Village*.)

Founding member Dustin Busch left the band a few years back. Busch-era Illinois John Fever was rock-steady country blues. With Busch's departure, their sound has become looser, with an almost-falling-apart character to their playing. Genell shouts the vocals as though microphones had never been invented. They have a backyard party vibe; they lock into steady grooves made more exciting by the occasional moments where they drop time.

The influence of 20th century blues legends like Mississippi Fred McDowell and Blind Willie McTell is strong, but Genell has his own concerns far removed from the bayous and cotton fields of the American South. "I need a friend other than my P.O.," he sings in "Tar Hoss Rider," a song about heroin abuse, whose lyric sheet features the notation "[Unintelligible junkie talk]." "Enemy Mine" is a political rant with intimations of paranoia and looming war, with the refrain, "Just waiting on the next time/ the world's gonna turn out fine."

The meditative album closer, "Emily Maxwell," is sort of a meta-blues, recalling Robert Johnson's "Love In Vain" with its famous lines "when the train left the station it had two lights on behind/ the blue light was my baby and the red light was my mind." Genell's lyric is less mournful, though, almost a kiss off, as when he sings "I ain't gonna walk you to the station/ I've

got no mind for red lights." Johnson's song is a desolate lament, but Genell's version is an impatient send off.

separation as couple and band but rather the subtly uncharted part where they consider coming back from it. The band goes on to

**You can let the music wash over you or can lean into it, focusing on the fancifully fussy assembly of the songs.**

The blues is a musical form with a strict template; it's hard to play with any originality. Illinois John Fever gets around the rules by playing fast and loose; they sing and play what they know and don't pretend they're anything they ain't. Most of all, they have fun with these shaggy, shambling, ranting songs—and if the band is having a good time, so will you.

—Kent Williams



## HAR-DI-HAR

*we will will you*

www.hardihar.com

When former Cedar Falls natives Julie and Andrew Thoreen started work on their newest (and first full length) album as Har-di-Har, *we will will you*, it was on the heels of an uncertain time in their lives both as a band and as a married couple. In their press release, they say the songs were written during a "season of separation."

But, uniquely, the album isn't about their

describe the album as a record that "invites us into the process of re-commitment."

What Har-di-Har has created is an impressionistic, emotions-laid-bare illustration of the mental wrestling about coming back together. The lyrics and vocals move between cautious optimism and doubt. In "It Held Me," Julie sings: "Once/you held me/ made me greater than what I thought and/ you don't know it." In "We Must Stand Up," Andrew sings: "My friend/our knuckles/are bound together."

You can let the music wash over you or can lean into it, focusing on the fancifully fussy assembly of the songs. The textures of horns, keyboards and bass guitar supporting close harmonies at times recalls Stereolab's *Dots and Loops*. The foundation of ticking percussion—looping, repeating, building and disintegrating—artfully captures the occasional disorientation of doubt. Songs break down into two or three parts and then build back up into many layers. There's a lot going on upon close inspection.

Do Har-di-Har make it? Are these hymns to healing or a parting psalm?

The answer may lie in the finale, "A Love Movement," which sounds like a Brian Wilson outtake, capturing the beautiful longing of "Surf's Up." Spare tinkling piano, washes of horns and distortion; their soaring vocals building and swirling together: "This is what we've longed for in friendship."

Har-di-Har came back together and, in sharing their personal conflict, created a concise and masterfully crafted record with *we will will you*—one that sets the bar high for their future releases. <sup>LV</sup>

—Michael Roeder

# URBAN TURNAROUND BY BEN TAUSIG

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.

## ACROSS

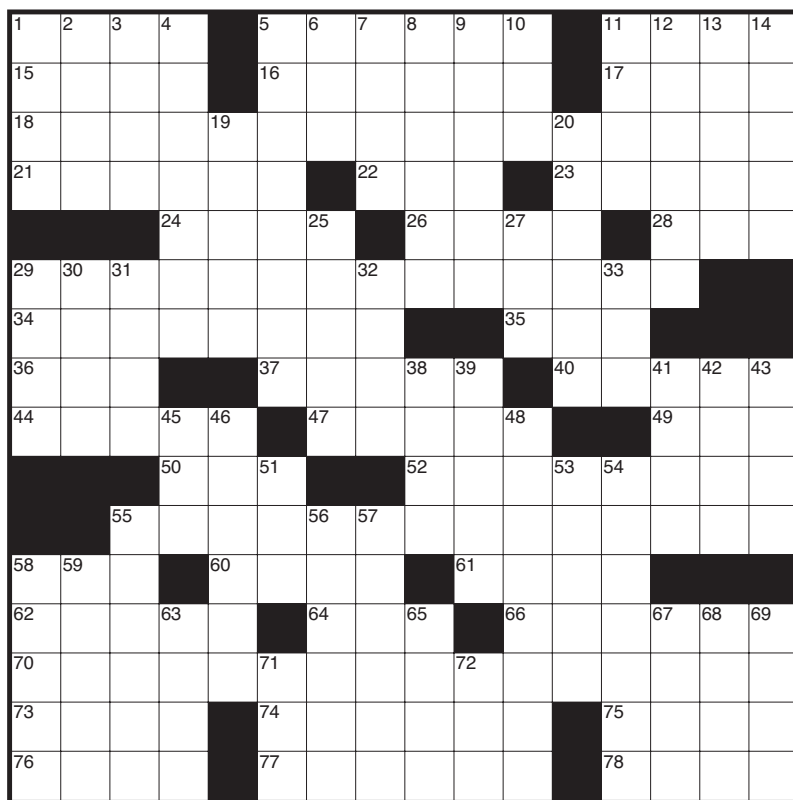
1. Driver on *Girls*
5. Drum sound?
11. Let out
15. Apple TV alternative
16. More chill-inducing
17. Kinks song about gender ambiguity
18. Queensland ceremony affirming the Jewish faith of a Batman villain?
21. Some seasonal mall roles
22. NYC museum with a David H. Koch plaza, after "the"
23. Former Egyptian leader Anwar
24. The "A" in A.D.
26. Issue a doctor might be able to diagnose by photograph
28. Breathless tribute
29. Virginia expo featuring the latest in telecopying technology, plus deep-fried handsets and a band that plays the modem sound?
34. Sardonic label on a trash can next to a

- recycling bin
35. 12-Down denizen
36. Forget to hit "send," say
37. "When thou \_\_\_\_ down, thou shalt not be afraid" (Proverbs 3:24)
40. Down there—related
44. Dueling needs
47. *War of the Worlds* result
49. Game whose name must be announced whenever someone has one card left
50. Italian way
52. Risk tactic
55. West Javanese prohibition against manure?
58. Wonder Woman portrayer Gadot
60. Grandma
61. Up to the task
62. Rolled out of bed
64. Loudness units, briefly
66. Offering the best advice
70. What fills the toilets where Napoleon fell?

- short
76. Station, often, for a train
77. Bottled drink that became Fuze
78. Hissy fit

## DOWN

1. People who do something complicated and presumably larcenous on Wall St.
2. Animated *Explorer*
3. Analogous (to)
4. Green in saag paneer
5. Algae-eating mollusk
6. Certain game bird
7. City that's about 94% Mormon
8. Jusepe de \_\_\_\_ (*Ecce Homo* painter; not the one that the well-meaning lady messed up, though)
9. American Revolutionary War concern
10. Catered lunch vessel
11. 61-Across's reverse, in a palindrome
12. Where Frodo goes
13. Epic *featuring* Ajax
14. Try



## LV229 ANSWERS

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

73. Bird of prey that does not have a string and flies just fine on non-windy days
74. How important text might be formatted
75. Structurally ironic, for

19. Resort town in the Rockies
20. F equivalent
25. Primrose family flower
27. Cali airport where an Air Canada plane nearly crashed in July 2017
29. Hightail it
30. Magazine with a recent issue commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Summer of Love
31. Memo starter
32. Jumping pest
33. Hosp. area
38. Hiccup
39. Scene-stealer Swinton in a couple of 43-Down brothers films
41. Houston rapper born Bernard Freeman
42. Empire conquered by Pizarro
43. See 39-Down
45. A Gabor sister
46. One with something to confess
48. Tonic cousin
51. Oral health org.
53. Union acquisition?
54. They define generations
55. Lit
56. Reversed
57. Powerful players
58. Stares in amazement
59. Stick around for
63. Innermost area of a castle
65. TV schedule place
67. Real English school mentioned in *Harry Potter*
68. Big rig
69. Pace around the bases, after a home run
71. Pioneering Asian-American NBA guard Jeremy
72. Cry for FC Barcelona

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