

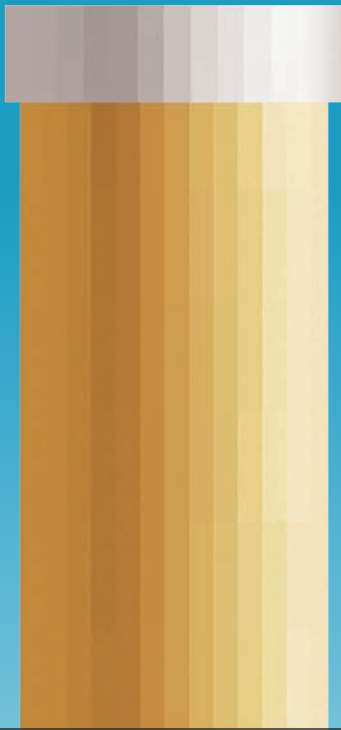
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ISSUE 248 AUG. 15-SEP. 4, 2018

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## THE PAIN PROBLEM

FINDING THE LINE BETWEEN OPIOID  
TREATMENT AND DEPENDENCE. PG. 18



# HANCHER AUDITORIUM 2018/2019 SEASON

## SEPTEMBER

- 12 Cokie Roberts, *An Insider's View of Washington, D.C.* - FREE
- 14 Steep Canyon Rangers - FREE & OUTDOORS
- 25 The Philadelphia Orchestra

## OCTOBER

- 5 Cirque Éloize, *Hotel*
- 10 Culinary Arts Experience: Saint Burch Tavern/Pullman Diner  
SOLD OUT
- 11 Emerson String Quartet
- 13 Rufus Reid, *Quiet Pride: A Celebration of Elizabeth Catlett*
- 18 Club Hancher: Storm Large
- 24 Momix, *Opus Cactus*
- 27-28 The Cashore Marionettes, *Simple Gifts*

## NOVEMBER

- 2 L.A. Theatre Works, *Steel Magnolias*
- 3 Club Hancher: Kinan Azmeh's CityBand
- 11 Soweto Gospel Choir
- 14 Culinary Arts Experience: Baroncini Ristorante - SOLD OUT
- 17 Alsarah & the Nubatones
- 25 The Summit: The Manhattan Transfer Meets Take 6  
*Celebrating the Holidays*
- 30 The Canadian Brass, *Christmas Time Is Here*

## DECEMBER

- 4-9 *Les Misérables*
- 31 Kristin Chenoweth, *A New Year's Eve Gala*

## JANUARY

- 24 Tre Voci

## FEBRUARY

- 2 Club Hancher: Banda Magda
- 6 Culinary Arts Experience: University Catering  
*Dinner with the Chefs*
- 8-10 *Jersey Boys*
- 16 Rahim AlHaj and string ensemble *Letters from Iraq*
- 21 *We Shall Overcome— A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*
- 23 Russian National Orchestra

## MARCH

- 2 Danú
- 8 Lawrence Brownlee and Eric Owens
- 10 Theatre Lovett, *They Called Her Vivaldi*
- 14 Havana Cuba All-Stars, *Aseré! A Fiesta Cubana*
- 30 Club Hancher: Kaia Kater
- 31 Brentano String Quartet

## APRIL

- 6 American Ballet Theatre, *Whipped Cream*
- 12 Batsheva Dance Company, *Venezuela*
- 24 Culinary Arts Experience:  
Trumpet Blossom Café

Top: Cirque Éloize,  
Banda Magda,  
American Ballet Theatre.  
Bottom: *Les Misérables*,  
Kristin Chenoweth.



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Aly High

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Local kids spent the summer reimagining public education.

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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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# 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.

## CALIFORNIA'S GLOBAL WARMING CLIMATE- CATASTROPHE

wildfires dominate the news, momentarily eclipsing even the presumptive leader who calls this situation a hoax. Public commentators continue to voice the dangerous and defeatist idea that there is a "cost" to defending the earth's climate, as if setting environment against prosperity with a zero-sum result.

If mankind is to survive, we must see beyond that. Environment is prosperity; defending earth is survival. Every dollar we invest in that direction advances science, hires workers and ripples through the economy, multiplying itself, typically five-fold,

with good jobs and the strong prospect of future benefits. It's a path of winning, this week, next year, next human century if there is to be one. Survival is not a choice; it's an absolutely primal mandate, the one we must translate through all the layers of complexity into collective action.

—Scott Hartley

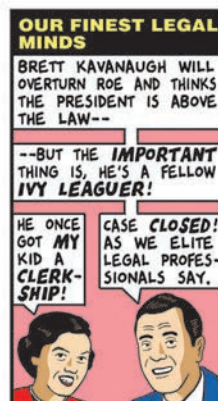
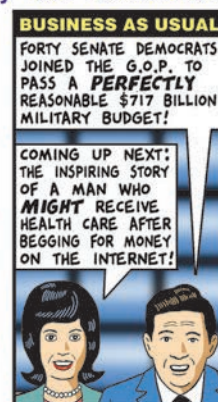
## Raygun's new Iowa City location is open

Just what downtown IC was lacking: some gun iconography. —Mark P.

We aren't the biggest fans of real firearms either, Mark. We support organizations that work for sensible gun safety laws (Everytown, Moms Demand

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



TOM TOMORROW © 2018



# HAVE AN OPINION?

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Action and Giffords Law Center To Prevent Gun Violence). Our name is derived from a fictional sci fi weapon.  
—Raygun

## Letter to the editor: Before you ban straws, listen to people with disabilities

We are talking about banning PLASTIC straws here people. Get rid of them!! Who cares? The restaurants can start buying the more expensive paper ones and then only give them out when people ask. I don't know why everyone has to make a big deal. —Trent

Trent, you would have to help a disabled person to eat and drink to truly understand why a *paper* straw doesn't work for them. Paper will shred and collapse because you see, their mouth/lips/tongues do not function the same as a non-disabled persons' does. Scott [the letter's author] is my younger brother; I do know and it is a big deal. I do agree with you that restaurants could just give them out when asked, but make them plastic. —Jan

Restaurants in Iowa City are doing a wonderful job answering the call to be thoughtful in their use of plastics, especially plastic straws, while at the same time being sensitive to the needs of those with disabilities. Iowa City restaurants that are going "straw-less" all still have plastic straws available for those who need them, but are giving people who don't need them a choice by not automatically giving them out. I think this is true around the country as well. I applaud our community for meeting the needs of people with disabilities while also helping the environment (plastic in Iowa City does end up in the oceans via water ways and storm drains; and plastic that stays in Iowa pollutes our own rivers, lakes and ground water). —Tricia

## FUTILE WRATH

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**'It's just a matter of priorities': Fred Hubbell talks about funding higher education during an Iowa City campaign stop**

I appreciate that Fred Hubbell point blank

said "No, I won't and I don't think it is a good idea" when responding to Free College for everyone instead of just saying "that's a great idea, but difficult to achieve" like so many other politicians. In my opinion, that was one of the biggest flaws with Bernie Sanders. He promised everyone the moon and the

stars, and it backfired on him. I'm definitely supporting Fred Hubbell in the election. Not because he has all the answers and can fix all the problems, but because I believe what he says. —*Bobby B.J.*

**STRESS FRACTURES**

JOHN MARTINEK



Why should we continue settling for a higher education system that throws us students in tens & hundreds of thousands in debt? When you don't shoot for the stars you settle for middle-of-the-road policies that don't help the people on the margins. When you don't stand for a pay raise which working people have not had since the '70s then you continue the class divide and the rampant poverty that is present in the most wealthy country ever to exist. We all know the feasibility of free college for all in this moment is low but we need to get there eventually. Right now we are exhausting our students across the country by having them take out ludicrous amounts of money while making minimum wage at their side jobs. Do you think that education should be a right and not a privilege? We need an educational framework that lifts people up and out of poverty and not into the belly of it. Is that a radical idea? —*Ryan H.*

**Letter to the editor: Iowa City should stop hiring sharpshooters to thin out the deer population**

All of the meat goes to use. I see no problem with this. —*David W.M.*

Florence is not wrong in saying that killing the deer will spark an increase in



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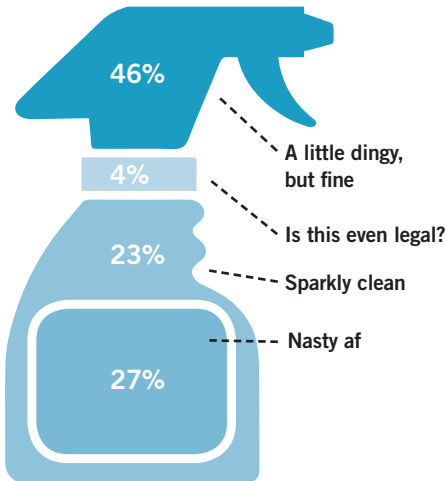
Image: Charles Bierk, *Tau*, 2017. Oil on canvas, 90 x 80 inches. Photograph courtesy Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto.





## /LittleVillage **READER POLL:**

Those who recently moved: What was the state of your rental when you moved in?



reproduction. This is basically the story of the coyote's expansion across the continent in the face of epically farcical and incredibly expensive extermination campaigns carried out by the government over the last century (shout out to Dan Flores). To suppose that spending taxpayer money to thin the population would be a one-time fix is just silly. I think incentivized hunting by people who want to do it and who will use the meat is a much better idea, and making natural bridges or "wildlife corridors" near road sections known as problem areas for collisions makes a lot more sense to me than does contracting expensive sharp-shooters to come put a band-aid on the situation. Just my two cents. —Dylan LV



# WHAT'S THE HARDEST FIGHTIN' UNION?

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# Education Gets Existential

This summer, students and educators attended workshops to discuss—and rethink—the purpose of school. **BY LAURA JOHNSON**

**A**cross eastern Iowa, teens are getting ready to head back to school. But about 100 teens from Iowa City and surrounding areas never left school for long, spending part of their summer breaks examining education in workshops offered collaboratively by the Iowa Youth Writing Project (IYWP) and Reimagine Iowa City Public Education (RIPE). The programs were supported by G!World, an initiative in Johnson County offering growth and mentorship opportunities to junior high and high school women of color; gallery and performance venue Public Space One; and the Dream Center, which offers programs to youth and adults aimed at strengthening families.

In its first major initiative, RIPE partnered with IYWP to offer summer enrichment to area teens, an extension of the programming that IYWP offers throughout the year. The summer workshops not only continued IYWP's work of encouraging voice and creativity but also engaged students in an experience designed to “embolden [them] to deconstruct, decipher, and depict the learning experience.” Participants were presented with the premise: “You’ll spend nearly 12,000 hours in school by the time you graduate—why not spend a few hours considering how it could be different[?]”

RIPE, founded in 2017, encourages community discussion around education in all its forms and in all its venues. In its founding statement, RIPE suggests that “this is the perfect moment to consider what we want our schools to evolve into, to dream up how we can respect and challenge our kids, and to imagine how we can attract and value our educators.” The statement adds that Iowa City just had one of its highest school board election turnouts ever and that the Iowa City Area Development group has made a decision to prioritize K-12 education.

The summer workshops offered students in grades 8-12 opportunities to engage in discussion about their own education and learning experiences and create based on those discussions. Throughout each week, with the support of workshop facilitators, participants created theater, screen prints, performance or digital presentations that reflected their conversations. Facilitators included University of Iowa students, community members and local educators. Participants were able to enroll at no or low cost thanks to the combined efforts of the sponsoring organizations.

The IYWP has been bringing local artists and writers to supplement and enrich curriculum and programming in area public schools and community organizations since 2010. Founded as an outreach collective by the Iowa Writers' Workshop, the IYWP is committed to keeping arts in classroom. Director of Summer Programming and Program Assistant Director Lisa Roberts said the organization offers school and site-based workshops throughout the year for learners of all ages.

In addition to ongoing programming, IYWP offers special classes; for example, a comics workshop, a session about erasure poetry and the chance to write about mental health issues. The IYWP also offers

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Zak Neumann

its own summer workshops, as well as courses available for credit through the University of Iowa.

“TYWP strives to create safe spaces for all students to develop their voice,” Roberts said.

Jennifer New, founder of RIPE, said that impetus for her organization is her belief that “things need to shift” in public education. Although New, who is also associate director at the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at UI, has not taught in a classroom, she comes to the project with experience as a curriculum writer for Microsoft, PBS and other clients. She also founded the educational consulting firm Synapse Learning Design.

RIPE calls for an inclusive approach to discussing education, and poses rhetorical questions designed to stimulate thinking about a variety of educational topics. The questions on the RIPE blog—such as,

“What do you think people need to know to be successful adults? For that matter, what is a ‘successful’ adult?” and, “What is the purpose of public education? What was it in the 1800s? What is it now? What will it be in the future?”—are familiar to the schools and teachers grappling with them daily at district-level meetings and in classrooms across eastern Iowa. RIPE aims to bring these questions to the students and community.

This summer, Charlie Kouns of Asheville, North Carolina, a founder of Imagining Learning (an organization aiming to “tap into the inner wisdom that students implicitly hold”), led listening sessions as part of the summer workshops. The listening sessions follow a prescribed format that encourages participants to brainstorm, reflect and then share their ideas by painting them on a large canvas. This summer these sessions, New said, included teachers who were inspired by the reflective process, as well as by their connections with other teachers.

RIPE’s founding statement quotes writer and historian Rebecca Solnit: “I want better metaphors. I want better stories. I want more openness. I want better questions.” This idea was the inspiration for the initial conversations among the founders that then extended into the impetus for the summer workshops. Their hope for the summer sessions was to allow participants to think beyond the boundaries that exist in traditional education and to create new ideas to inspire learning, New said.

As RIPE looks toward the future, New said that the organization is planning to share some of the students’ summer work with school leaders soon. Going forward, RIPE anticipates collaborating with Brooklyn artist Tracy Malloy and Chuck Peters of Cedar Rapids. Peters has a special interest in education and is planning to lead a series of community conversations about

education this fall.

New said RIPE also hopes to maintain its collaboration with Kouns to continue holding listening sessions in the community. Plans are in the works for screening the 2015 documentary *Paper Tigers*—about a high school implementing trauma-sensitive programming—at FilmScene in Iowa City.

In collaborating on the summer workshops and planning upcoming programming, there is one clear goal of RIPE. “We want to have a real dialogue about what is being taught [in our schools],” New said, “and how it’s being taught.” LV/

*Laura Johnson is a career educator who taught Russian and English for 23 years in Georgia, Illinois and Iowa. She is a poet and writer living in Marion, Iowa.*

LV Recommends

# Geyer's Oven

1259 Rohret Rd SW, Oxford, IA  
BY JESSICA CARNEY

There's nothing more "Iowa" than eating in the middle of a cornfield. At Geyer's Oven in Oxford, cows passively watched me enjoy delicious wood-fired pizza made with fresh ingredients such as summer squash and roasted beets. Visitors brought picnic blankets, dogs, wine and other wonderful things to enjoy along with the summer evening outside on the farm.

Although the farm is located in what any non-Midwesterner would call "the middle of nowhere," it's only about 20 minutes west of



Iowa City. Even the drive itself, a veritable Grant Wood painting of rolling cornfields, was enjoyable. In case Geyer's wasn't scenic enough, the farm also grows and sells beautiful flowers. Visitors squeeze their folding chairs between rows of tulips and bend down

to pet the lamb's ear (a shockingly soft flower) between bites of pizza.

Geyer's has outsmarted the normal restaurant protocol by eliminating ordering. The staff continually makes all six types of pizza, and visitors may take any kind and however



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Photos by Jessica Carney



much they want. A \$12 flat fee is collected at the door, and you're good to go. The large line for pizza moved swiftly, making it the happiest line of people that I have ever seen. They also have a sign announcing discounts for children and "small eaters." Bringing my

own wine helped make the whole outing very affordable. For the big spenders, ice cream bars are an additional \$1.

My favorite pizza was the summer squash with olive and feta, which was pleasantly drenched in olive oil. The beet and walnut

pizza was also solid, and as a bonus it allowed me to put on airs of healthiness while eating four slices of pizza.

Pizza is served on the farm only on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, May through September. In true if-you-build-a-wood-fire-oven-they-will-come fashion, about 275 people were there, with kids comprising about a third of the visitors. Young professionals attended, grandparents attended and even a woman in a bridal gown with bridesmaids attended. When I inquired, she said she did not actually get married, but just wanted to take advantage of the scenery for a fun photo shoot.

The food at Geyer's Oven is quite good, but it's not the main attraction. I asked a fellow visitor what they liked most, and they said the "Iowa niceness of it all." It was easy to chat with other visitors (especially when sharing a picnic bench) which allowed me to hold a spontaneous interview with a 5-year-old who claimed to have had eight slices of pizza. He recommends you come try the pepperoni. LV/



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## Prairie Pop

# Unicorns on the Moon

A true history of fake news (part 2).

BY KEMBREW MCLEOD

The 2016 U.S. presidential election season unleashed new anxieties about “fake news” and other slippery forms of propaganda that have been enabled by our newfangled social media. However, media manipulation has a long history—

one we are doomed to repeat again and again unless we study the past.

With that in mind, it's worth examining a little-known political hoax timed for the 1864 elections that anticipated some of the racially-charged fake news stories that circulate today.

*Miscegenation: The Theory of the Blending of the Races, Applied to the American White Man and the Negro* was a 72-page pamphlet that is most notable for coining the word “miscegenation,” unleashing it on the public imagination. African-American studies scholar Sidney Kaplan documented how it caused an immediate sensation by claiming that it was the Caucasian man's “noble prerogative to set the example of this rich blending of blood.” Predictably, white supremacists went into apoplectic fits.

David Goodman Croly, an editor at the *New York World* and an avowed racist, surreptitiously wrote *Miscegenation* with George Wakeman, a reporter at the same paper (which regularly stirred up white working-

class racial anxieties). “And now, behold!” announced the authors, who posed as anti-slavery crusaders, “the great Republican party has merged into the little abolition party. The drop has colored the bucket-full.”

From a contemporary vantage point, *Miscegenation* reads like an ideologically confusing game of Mad Libs: *Look at those anti-white Republicans and their progressive agenda! Who will they vote for next, a black president with a white mother?* The pamphlet stoked passions

on both ends of the political spectrum; it was embraced by prominent abolitionists while at the same time passages were read in the halls of Congress in an attempt to obstruct the Freedman's Bureau bill, which was meant to assist former slaves.

Croly and Wakeman expertly managed the hoax like a public relations campaign, sending abolitionist tastemakers advance copies along with a warm letter soliciting their opinions. Parker Pillsbury, the editor of the *National Anti-Slavery Standard*, endorsed the *Miscegenation* pamphlet, hoping that “there will be progressive intermingling and that the nation will be benefited by it.” Pro-slavery newspapers happily expanded on the hoax by making up their own fictions. The *New Hampshire Patriot* concocted an article titled “Sixty-four Miscegenation,” which implausibly claimed that 64 pro-abolitionist teachers in New England's Port Royal school gave birth to “mulatto” babies.

*Miscegenation* successfully turned interracial marriage into one of

the central campaign issues of the 1864 elections, at a time when the electoral tide was turning against Lincoln. Croly and Wakeman's hoax had long legs, and it helped shape racial history in 20th-century America. Within a year after the publication of the *Miscegenation* pamphlet, this newfangled word was in widespread use, and as Kaplan has noted, it remained a powerful rhetorical tool used to police color lines for decades. It took until 1967, in the *Loving v. Virginia* decision, for the U.S. Supreme Court to rule that laws banning interracial marriage were unconstitutional.

Deception in journalism thrived throughout the 1800s, when news outlets regularly mixed fact and fiction. Of particular note was the *New York City Sun*, which specialized in crime—if it bled, it led—as well as other eye-popping articles geared towards the working masses. The *Sun* entertained people with

huge headlines, slang-filled prose, sensational stories and several bald-faced hoaxes. During the summer of 1835, *Sun* reporter Richard Adams Locke published a series of stories about shocking new astronomical discoveries made from a South African observatory.

The sightings were attributed to famed astronomer Sir John Herschel, who heard about the hoax only months later. In the *Sun* article, he allegedly scanned the moon with his telescope and came across a field of





poppies, a red-hilled valley and moon animals with horns! Locke named this area “The Valley of the Unicorn.” The surreal sight grew weirder when the scientific team observed a group of man-bats, or *Vespertiliohomo*, who apparently enjoyed active sex lives. (Their “improper behavior,” Locke intoned, would “ill comport with our terrestrial notions of decorum.”)

The *Sun*’s circulation soon topped 18,000—transforming it into the biggest daily paper in the world. Explaining the moon hoax’s popularity, the famous journalist Horace Greeley spoke of its “unquestionable plausibility and verisimilitude,” claiming it had fooled “nine-tenths of us, at the least.” Doubts grew louder, and the buzz spread around town that Richard Adams Locke was—gasp—a “hoaxer.” News of the ruse quickly rippled around the world.

Four decades later, the *New York Herald* whipped the city into a frenzy when it published a story on Nov. 9, 1874 about a Central Park Zoo animal riot that killed 49 people and injured more than 200. According to hoaxes.org, New York Governor John A. Dix reportedly arrived with a gun in hand, and several other prominent New Yorkers took part in an animal hunt on Broadway.

Because of the slow speed at which news traveled back then—no telephone or radio, for instance—many city residents lived in fear until the following morning. Readers locked themselves indoors, and some journalists even fell for the story. Dr. George W. Hosmer, a celebrated war correspondent, appeared in the *Herald*’s offices

**The *Sun* entertained people with huge headlines, slang-filled prose, sensational stories and several bald-faced hoaxes.**

with two large Navy revolvers, shouting, “Well, here I am.”

Even James Gordon Bennett, Jr., the paper’s owner, collapsed in his bed after reading the story and remained there all day. Like many of his own paper’s readers, Bennett didn’t make it to the article’s final paragraph, which began: “Not one word of it is true.” The *Herald*’s stated goal was supposedly to “test the city’s preparedness to meet a catastrophe,” though selling lots of papers was likely the hoax’s main objective.

Technologies have evolved, but America’s murky media landscape has remained unchanged in some important ways, from the more frivolous moon and zoo hoaxes to the racially-charged fake news of the 1864 presidential elections and the 2016 campaign season. However, the appropriation of the term “fake news” by Donald Trump, his contempt for facts and the way the president has branded reporters “the enemy of the people” represents an entirely new and disturbing turn of events that is downright Orwellian (insert quote from 1984 here, any will do). LV/

*In addition to being a prankster, Kembrew McLeod is also the author of Pranksters: Making Mischief in the Modern World (NYU Press, 2014).*

# WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE TO BREAK UP?



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## Sex &amp; Love

# Where is this going?

When inquiring about someone's relationship status, especially LGBTQ people, try to leave out the m-word. **BY NATALIE BENWAY**

“So, when are you going to get married?” Whether you're in a long-term relationship or single, you've likely fielded this question. It's a big question, sometimes softened with a playful nudge or wink, but can be less than fun to answer, and not just for the proverbial bachelors afraid of commitment.

The underlying assumption is that strong relationships are “going somewhere,” and involve the eventual sharing of homes, beds, names, bank accounts and, most likely, children. Marriage is a commitment, and commitment means stability, right?

But guiding someone toward a certain kind of stability might be like recommending

training wheels to an experienced cyclist. These pressures can become especially complicated for those who don't identify as straight.

“I have known from a very young age that I wanted to be a mom,” said a friend of mine—let's call her L—who identifies as a queer woman. “It was always something I wanted for my future, and when I was younger I also thought that marriage was a prerequisite to a baby. Coming into my queer identity has helped alter the way I perceive families and family life.”

Still, L said she often got the marriage question.

“I definitely felt pressure to get married before having kids from both my mom, and

my partner's family,” she said. “I think both our families really attribute family to the typical heteronormative lifestyle.”

By now, we know all couples don't look the same, but the paths these different couples (or triads, or quads) take are at least as varied and unpredictable.

I was talking to another friend recently, H, who identifies as pansexual. She said one of the challenges of dating across the gender spectrum is the need to constantly come out depending on where she is at in her life, who she is with or how other people might read her partner's gender. People make heteronormative assumptions, asking her invasive questions about what her future holds. At a work meeting, H was asked “When are you going to get married or have kids?” In her family, when she dates someone who identifies as a woman, “it's just a phase.”

H feels she is navigating and pushing back against judgement constantly. She said it is more common for her to be misunderstood than understood. At her work meeting, she wished someone had been there to “speak up and say, ‘Maybe she doesn't want to get married or have kids.’”

My friend C rejects both labels and the “traditional” monogamous relationship structure. “We place so much merit on one-on-one relationships, and my love won't fit with just one person. I tried to squeeze this giant love with just one other person and it just didn't work.”

“My devotion, adoration and love is oceanic, and to me it's so limiting to imply only one person gets to have that,” she added.

Whether one hopes to marry one day or not, the notion can be intimidating, especially when one's proximity to marriage is closely monitored by friends, family and colleagues. Even if someone can chart the trajectory of their relationship, they might be tired of explaining or justifying this route to others.

It can be hard to relate to a relationship model with which you're unfamiliar, but H said there's no shortage of ways to become more familiar: “Read books, go to classes, show up.”

When in doubt, just try to keep the conversation open and inclusive, C recommends. This could mean simply saying, “I hear you, I never thought about that, do you want to talk about that more?”

These nuanced conversations can and should extend to those in the throes of wedded bliss. Spouses face their own heap of stereotypes and assumptions—the nagging



wife and lazy husband tropes still have legs today, and are often shoddily projected onto same-sex couples—that seem to render sexual identity and fluidity irrelevant.

“It can be really difficult sometimes,” L said of being queer in a heteronormative-presenting marriage. “I find that having a more ‘queer’ haircut helps me feel more at ease, and dressing more edgy and/or androgynous. But also making sure I am active within my queer/LGBT communities, whether that is participating in protest or going to drag shows.”

**“My devotion, adoration and love is oceanic, and to me it’s so limiting to imply only one person gets to have that.” —C**

With a husband and children, L fits a “traditional” family model, “but it was never something we deemed necessary to do to be complete in our own little family,” she said. “We were perfectly content with our relationship status. At one point I think I turned to him and said, ‘I think we should have more of a party to celebrate our love, plus we can get a tax break!’”

America loves a good wedding, but not every love story ends with one, or has a wedding at all. If you’re looking for an alternative to the marriage question, you might consider asking someone how they define family.

“I no longer see family as people who are blood-related but instead, they are the people in your arsenal,” L said, “the people who come running to support you through your failures and your triumphs. So, for me, being married had nothing to do with my partner being my family.” LV/

*Natalie Benway LISW is a psychotherapist in private practice in Coralville. She has a certification in sexuality studies from the University of Iowa and is currently pursuing additional licensure with the American Association of Sexuality Educators, Counselors and Therapists.*

# THE ENGLERT THEATRE



## SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 MAKING SPACE: A WORKSHOP

ENGLERT WAVELENGTH:  
DEEPER LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29 FALL FRIENDS DINNER

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## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 LAKE STREET DIVE - SOLD OUT

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## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 SOUL SHERPA: THE CORRIDOR RECORD PROJECT

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 ELIZABETH MOEN

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AMANDA SHIRES

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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 two IC-based cultural advocacy organizations: Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature and *Little Village* magazine, with financial support from M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art.

**Hot Tin Roof: August**

# Rolling In The Deep At Old Man's Creek

The geriatric van tattooed with faded peace signs sped past golden stacks of Iowa wheat on this sticky September afternoon. Our driver, Ana Mendieta, had the five of us, plus her photography gear and plastic buckets, stuffed in her vehicle for the short drive to Old Man's Creek near Sharon Center. The smells of mud, fish, creek water, cornstalks and honeysuckle greeted us as we slipped down the roily sides of the stream. Ana reminded us that our female smells were the most important ingredient in this natural brew. She said, "You can't separate nature and the female form ... it exists together, we celebrate them as one." Her mantra, "We are all part of violence, life, death, identity, place and belonging," was repeated to us many times. That day, our innocence protected us from the tragic events that would leave only four of us alive 13 years later.

I met Ana Mendieta at a raucous New Year's Eve party a few months prior. It was dark with snow falling when my husband and I parked our car, but I could see a group of barrel-chested men in the backyard. A large animal was being roasted over a fire; the men were singing and passing a bottle of booze. Later, these Slovakian goat-mongers charged into the house, wearing the severed hoofs of the roasted goat around their necks. They began to dance wildly, their large hairy arms engulfing everyone in their path. Ana joined them and rubbed goat blood on her face as the men raised glasses to salute her. Later, when Ana and I danced, I avoided the goat blood, while she puffed on her clove cigarette and twirled and kissed each man who passed by. I wondered who she was and where she came from.

The smells of sweat, marijuana and charred meat were as thick and intoxicating as carbon monoxide as we partied toward 1973. At midnight, Ana stood with her back to the fire; her regal body language seemed to echo an ancient culture. A primal scream of "VIVA CUBA" came from her throat as she tossed her glass

backwards directly into the burning logs. We all followed suit.

During Castro's regime, Ana was torn from her Cuban homeland when she was 12 years old. This was part of Operation Peter Pan. She and her sister were plopped into Dubuque, Iowa and put into a reform school. Ana passionately and sadly spoke to me of her past situation. The focus of her studies at the University was combining her body and nature. (This fierce and stubborn feminist stance was based on her early years of loss and struggle, which was a strange irony later.)

Back at the creek, we undressed on the slippery banks of the languishing stream and looked for a spot to hang our clothing. Ana found a small maple with outstretched arms that she quickly named "Loverboy." Ana quipped that Loverboy was just how she liked her men: "silent, but useful." We all laughed.

Our bodies nestled in the Iowa loam, the afternoon heat made our minds as hazy as the landscape. The neighboring dairy cows moored their displeasure as we wallowed in the mud, plastering our bodies with leaves, twigs and grass. Ana moved quickly among our freeze-frame flesh recording each body print in the primordial gumbo. Our young, smooth bodies were in deep contrast to the ancient mud and debris accumulated at the creek's edge. We were transformed into sludge-covered nymphs as we lay at the edge of the creek, our long hair trailing like blood in the water. Posing and laughing, we listened to the clicking and clucking of the field birds competing with Ana's camera.

Ana spoke of being ripped from the womb when she was taken from her homeland early in life. Her art was a way to re-establish the bonds that unite women to the universe and return them to the maternal source. I felt purposeful and strong. I was proud of my body and felt united with these women. This day changed me, it made me fierce and aware of my female strength for the first time in my life. A seed was planted in me that germinated and

grew into who I am today.

Sadly, Ana was gone from my life in a couple years. She joined the A.I.R. gallery in New York City, which was the first art gallery for women to be established in the United States. I read about her achievements in local newspapers and from friends who kept track of her. Her death at age 37 on Sept. 8, 1985 was devastating and shook me to my core. Once again, she was plucked against her will from what she loved. My beautiful friend, Ana, fell from her 34th-story apartment in Greenwich Village. Her husband, Carl Andre, reported that after an argument, Ana threw herself out the window. None of us ever believed his story. He was tried and acquitted of her murder three years later. To this day, there is uproar and protest regarding her death.

In 1990, I was living in Champaign, IL, when I saw that the University Latinos were hosting an Ana Mendieta night. That night, I peered into the doorway of the Casa Latino house to see a group of young Latina women watching a film of Ana. I waited at the door until one of the students beckoned me in. It became quiet in the tiny house as curious faces turned and stared. I hesitated, then stood straight and tall, as Ana would, and said proudly, "I knew Ana. I danced with her on New Year's Eve."

Suddenly, unfamiliar faces didn't matter. We all knew one another; tears flowed from my eyes as each woman stood and embraced me. LV/

*Diane LaDuke lives and writes in Goosetown. She's a retired Drug and Alcohol Counselor who is interested and active in social justice. LaDuke is writing her life story to keep her family's history alive.*

*Editors' Note: From 1960-62, more than 14,000 unaccompanied minors were brought from Fidel Castro's Cuba to the United States. Operation Pedro Pan was spearheaded by the Diocese of Miami Catholic Welfare Bureau, facilitated by the U.S. State Department. For the last 10 months of the program, the U.S. allowed children to enter without visas or fees. About half of the children, aged 4-16, were released to family members already in the U.S. The rest were placed in orphanages and with foster families across the country. By 1965, most had been reunited with their families.*



# The Center

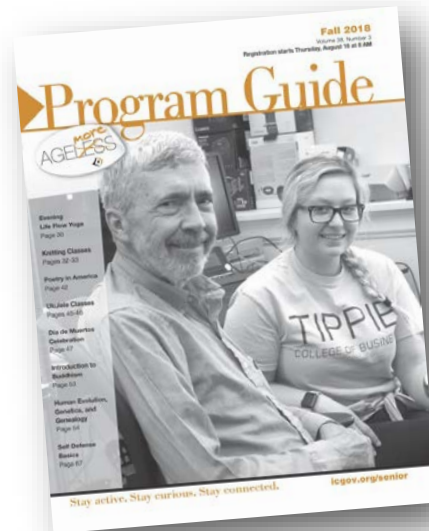
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- ♦ 9/6 - All Ages Speed Friendshipping
- ♦ 9/28 - Get To Know Your Community LGBT+ Expo (presented with IC Pride)
- ♦ 10/17 - Community Night at Hudson's
- ♦ 10/24 - Red Cedar Chamber Music
- ♦ 11/1 - Día de Muertos Celebration
- ♦ 11/11 - Family Folk Machine Concert
- ♦ NEW! Knit 101: Learn How to Knit
- ♦ NEW! Sing and Play the Ukulele

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## A-List

# A Necessary Evil

In the midst of the opioid crisis, every pill can feel like a red flag.

BY SHIRLEY WANG

It had been about a year since my dad was diagnosed with cancer. He'd had a tumor removed from his heart and hadn't returned to work. Sitting in an armchair in our living room, watching Wayne Brady on *The Price Is Right*, my dad seemed stuck in some sort of outpatient purgatory. When I walked into the room, I saw about 15 different prescription drug bottles of various sizes on the coffee table right in reach of where he sat.

Over a commercial break, he extracted from his array a white pill: oxycodone, an opioid painkiller. He put it in his mouth. That's one. A few hours later, he asked me to

of cancer patients who are given opioid pain relievers suffer from opioid addiction, though that probability changes when the patient has been on the medication long-term. Risk of overdosing increases sevenfold when the patient has mental health issues such as anxiety, PTSD or depression, all of which are part of my family's history.

I was constantly worried about enabling my father in any way to develop a dependency on the drug. I began asking how many he took each day and counted the pills in the container if he didn't tell me. I hesitated to hand him the bottle.

What I didn't know was that, because my dad had been on oxycodone for so long, a dependence on the drug was likely already there.

**“Even if someone had a history of addiction and they had cancer, we could not withhold a pain medication from them. That would just be awful.”**

—Lee Kral

bring him a glass of water with fresh ice. He took a sip and relaxed into his seat. He took another pill. It was not yet lunchtime, and he'd already taken two painkillers.

Watching this happen was terrifying. With stories of opioid overdoses coming to light in recent years, I couldn't help but to think, *This is how addiction happens*. In 2017, there were 157 opioid-related deaths, with oxycodone and hydrocodone as the cause for the rise in drug poisoning deaths. An audit by the Iowa Board of Pharmacy revealed that 2,042,054 prescriptions for opioids were filled in the state last year. My dad, I learned, had been taking opioids regularly since 2016 and 20 mg of oxycodone daily since the start of this year.

Among the most commonly shared themes about the epidemic is that addiction can happen to anyone. A literature review of chronic pain studies shows that as many as 8 percent

Not only had my dad endured more than 20 cycles of radiation therapy, he had three substantial surgeries, one that left a seven-inch scar down his chest and another six-inch scar in his abdomen, completing a line from his collarbone to just below the belly button. Over the years, I could tell he was most in pain when he closed his eyes, puffed out his cheeks and held his breath.

Lee Kral is a clinical pharmacy specialist in pain management at the University of Iowa Hospital, where my dad was a patient. She tells me when it comes to pain for those with cancer, opioids are often a requisite. With the nerve damage from radiation or chemotherapy and growing tumors pressing against the body, patients can experience a low baseline of chronic pain.

“We need them to be as comfortable as possible while they go through an incredibly uncomfortable process,” Kral told me. “So

the addiction in the cancer patients is kind of a secondary concern. Even if someone had a history of addiction and they had cancer, we could not withhold a pain medication from them. That would just be awful.”

My dad needed the drug, but never had an addiction; the difference between a “physical dependence” and an “addiction” is that the latter is a condition that implies a person compulsively consumes opioids without regard to negative consequences. However, the American Academy of Addiction Medicine writes, public health information does not offer a definitive consensus about the difference.

In 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a set of widely circulated guidelines that raised the red flag about overprescription. Healthcare providers now concerned about patient reviews and lawsuits have stopped prescribing opioids or are dispensing lower doses, according to the Pain News Network. Lawmakers across the nation implemented policies to cap the duration of patients' opioid use and the amount prescribed. Patients with chronic pain are already beginning to bear the costs.

At the same time, physicians excessively prescribing opioids have put more pills into unregulated circulation—the effects of which Sarah Ziegenhorn, director of the Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition, witnesses while working with clients who have overdosed on prescription opioids. Many of the clients Ziegenhorn sees have never been prescribed opioids and never had chronic pain, but rather have what she calls “emotional pain.”

Ziegenhorn says the narrative that addiction happens to anyone, like a flu or “viral infection that doesn't discriminate,” isn't really the case.

“There has been this demonizing of the medical use of opioids in general and it piques a lot of fear in patients' thinking,” she said. “I do talk to cancer patients sometimes who do have pain, or [patients with] sickle cell pain or something quite severe, and they say ‘I can't take an opioid, I don't want to become a drug addict.’ It's important to have more of an understanding of what the process of becoming addicted to a drug looks like and who does that happen to.”

Who does addiction and overdosing happen to? Research shows that while certain conditions do increase the vulnerability of an individual to addiction, opioid addiction is a brain disease that biologically can happen to anyone. Public health research regards social determinants such as poverty, class,





# FIGHTING THE OPIOID CRISIS AT HOME

The Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition, an outreach and advocacy organization serving those affected by drug addiction, is hosting a number of public programs in the coming weeks.

## **Volte-Face Gabe's, Friday, Aug. 31 at 5 p.m., Suggested donation: \$10-20**

Held in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day, this IHRC fundraising event will feature a silent auction, collaborative memorial and free naloxone training (naloxone, also known as Narcan, blocks the effects of opioids and can prevent overdose). There will be performances by **Sinnerfrenz, Zuul, Astrodome, Liv Carrow, Brooks Strause, DJ A to the K.** (*Little Village* is a co-sponsor of this event)

## **Harm Reduction Summit**

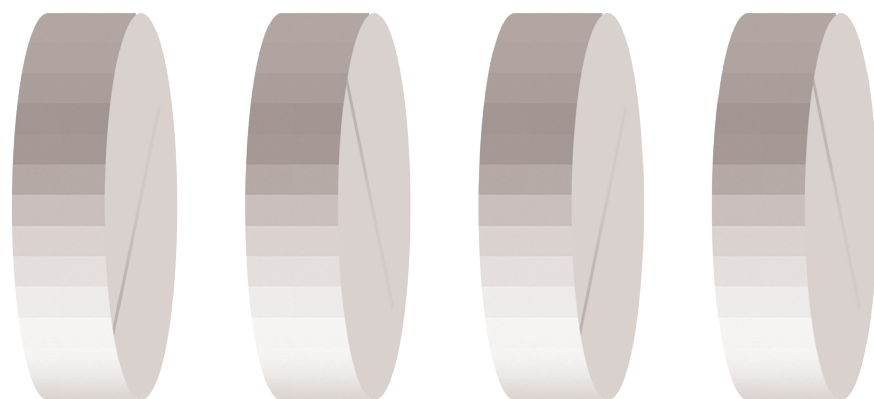
In partnership with the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, the IHRC is hosting their third annual summit Monday-Friday, Sept. 24-28. Workshops feature speakers from Dr. Dan Ciccarone of the University of California San Francisco, currently studying heroin use and its roots in the opioid pill epidemic, to Iowa Sen. Joe Bolkcom. Discussions held Monday-Thursday are free and open to the public, and include:

- Harm Reduction and Syringe Service Programs (12 p.m. Monday, MERF 1110)
- Safe Environments and Overdose Prevention (12 p.m. Wednesday, MERF 1110)
- Distinguished Lecture: The Roots of the Opioid Crisis & the Solution of Safe Consumption Spaces (7 p.m. Wednesday, Old Brick)
- Understanding the Structural Determinants of the Opioid Crisis (12 p.m. Thursday, MERF 1110)

Friday's all-day conference requires pre-registration (cost: \$40). You may choose one of three tracks: Syringe Exchange, Hepatitis C Treatment and Overdose Prevention.

In conjunction with the summit, a traveling pop-up exhibit titled **Safe Shape** will be on the Ped Mall Sept. 26-28. It models a drug consumption room, where users might inject drugs under medical supervision, with clean supplies and without fear of persecution. Studies from Europe have shown these types of facilities reduce overdose deaths and the spread of disease, but they are currently illegal in the U.S.

Jordan Sellergren



Jordan Sellegren

racism and social isolation as influencing an individual's ability to mitigate drug-related harm. Indeed, a survey of victims shows the same: Rates of overdoses and overdose deaths are fastest growing among Indigenous and African-American people. Compared to other patient populations, overdose deaths are more common amongst those who are Medicaid-eligible. In general, many overdoses are also suicide attempts.

In the end it was tumors that took my father's life—not the opioids, not an overdose. In some ways, cancer is a foe to which people are much more empathetic, because it's understood as an illogical, malicious force, not the cause of a human "failing," as addiction is still too often seen.

The luxury of thinking long-term about the future and a return to health alludes to many. My father believed he would beat cancer and used painkillers to survive another day. Addiction wasn't a concern to someone who could imagine a time when he might recover and return to a stable, happy life.

Ziegenhorn says anyone with a chronic condition—cancer and addiction alike—should receive treatment that follows a philosophy on which all long-term case healthcare providers agree, one that approaches treatment "day by day."

For cancer patients, this might look like a reevaluation of daily priorities. Kral said questions assessing the need for painkillers might range from "Are the symptoms especially severe today?" to—for terminally-ill patients—"What medication will allow me to express my last sentiments?"

For those who do not suffer from chronic pain but repeatedly abuse opioids, Ziegenhorn suggests caregivers help victims rebuild a sense of agency in their lives, treating them with respect, providing them with buprenorphine, characterizing them beyond criminality and having conversations about hope.

Both approaches try to help sick people hold on. **LV**

*Shirley Wang grew up in Iowa City and recently graduated from Tufts University. She hopes you'll tell someone you love them today. Follow her on Twitter at @shirleyshirlw.*



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## EDITORS' PICKS

# CALENDAR

## CEDAR RAPIDS/ IOWA CITY AREA EVENTS AUG. 15-SEPT. 4, 2018

Planning an event? Submit event info to [calendar@littlevillagemag.com](mailto:calendar@littlevillagemag.com). Include event name, date, time, venue, street address, admission price and a brief description (no all-caps, exclamation points or advertising verbiage, please). To find more events, visit [littlevillagemag.com/calendar](http://littlevillagemag.com/calendar). Please check venue listing in case details have changed.

## WED., AUG. 15

### Iowa City Open

**Coffee**, Merge, Iowa City, 8 a.m., Free (Weekly)

### Break Dance Group,

Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

### Food Truck

**Wednesdays**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 11 a.m. (Weekly)

**Bluegrass Jam**, The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Wednesday)

FEATURING THE  
CLAPP RECITAL HALL  
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### An Evening of

**Chamber Music**, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free

### NewBo Farmers

**Market**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m. (Weekly)

### Iowa City

**Wednesday Farmers Market**, Chauncey Swan Ramp, Iowa City, 5 p.m. (Weekly)

### Open Mic Night,

Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

### Gentle Yoga, Public

Space One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

**Open Stage**, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

### HISTORY @ THE GROVE

**Iowa City Beer Riots of 1883**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free

THIS WEEK: 'DEVIL'S TRAIL'

**Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 (Weekly)



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## STAFF PICKS

# WHAT ARE WE DOING? AUG. 15–SEPT. 4, 2018



Sarah Pressley

### ▲ Practice in the Prairie: Free Summer Yoga Series Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, Tuesday, Aug. 21, 6 p.m., Free

It's been years since I've been to Indian Creek Nature Center, but fond memories of school field trips growing up made me think it's about time for a visit. I'm always down for a yoga or pilates class so the Center's Free Summer Yoga Series caught my eye as I was skimming upcoming events. A chance to try out some new-to-me Cedar Rapids instructors and classes in a beautiful outdoor setting? Sign me up! Free? Even better!

—Frankie Schneckloth



Katie Hovland

### ▲ Bloated Kat Records Presents: Bloated Saturday III Gabe's, Iowa City, Saturday, Sept. 1, 3 p.m., \$12

Here's the thing: I'm going to list all of the phenomenal bands in the third installment of Bloated Kat Records' jam-packed

Saturday of local and regional punkalicious goodness—and that's it. I'll be out of space for this write up. Because this shit is filled to the brim with brilliance. For only \$12, it is (as the Facebook event says) “one fuck of a deal.” Featuring: 83 Wolfpack (Minneapolis), the Brokedowns (Chicago), Butchered (Chicago), Centaur Noir (Moline), Child's Mind (Chicago), Dingus (Minneapolis), Dryad (Iowa City), Fantastic Plastics (Peoria), Good Habits (Iowa City), Greg Wheeler and the Poly Mall Cops (Des Moines), I Will (Iowa City), the Insomniacs (Iowa), Jocko (Omaha), Lipstick Homicide (Iowa City), Lu\$y Joli (Iowa City), Nightcrawler (IL), Odd Pets (Des Moines), the Punchlines (Jokesville USA), Rational Anthem (Iowa City), Th' Spider Magnets (Iowa City), What Cheer (Iowa City)

—Genevieve Trainor



▲ Rooftop Series: Moonstruck (1987) FilmScene, Iowa City, Sunday, Sept. 2, 8 p.m., \$15 What's one of the most romantic movies in all the land? Moonstruck! Why is it one of the most romantic movies in all the land? Nick Cage's super-sexy eyes! The summer's almost over. Even if you think you don't “have time” to watch a romantic comedy with Cher in it on a roof under the stars, you cannot deny it is a wonderful way to spend an evening—whether you're among friends or on a lovely date with yourself. Next chance to see hot-era Nick Cage's eyes on the FilmScene rooftop will be *Raising Arizona* (1987), Sunday, Sept. 30. LV/

—Jordan Sellergren

WHO WILL WEAR THE CROWN?



Iowa Premiere of the Groundbreaking Documentary "The Queens" to be screened on the campus of the University of Iowa

Long before RuPaul's Drag Race, there was the Miss Continental pageant, recognizing the best and brightest in the female impersonator community.

**Location:** Big Ten Room, Iowa Memorial Union

**Date:** September 10, 2018 | **Doors Open:** 6:30 pm

**Film Begins:** 7:00 pm | **After the Show:** Special performances by Ophelia Belle & Hollywood Hope. Producer/director/writer Mark Saxenmeyer will also take questions from the audience



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## EDITORS' PICKS

### THU., AUG. 16

**I.C. Press Co-op open shop,**  
Public Space One, Iowa City, 4 p.m.,  
Free (Weekly)

**UAY Mural Project Reception,**  
220 E Washington St, Iowa City, 4  
p.m., Free

**Meet Me at the Market,** NewBo City  
Market, 5 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Iowa City Meditation Class: How  
To Transform Your Life,** Quaker  
Friends Meeting House, Iowa City,  
6:30 p.m., \$5-10 (Weekly)

**Novel Conversations,** Coralville  
Community Library, 7 p.m., Free (3rd  
Thursday)

**Thursday Night Live Open Mic,**  
Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free  
(Weekly)

**Daddy-O,** Parlor City Pub and Eatery,  
Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Underground Open Mic,** Open Jam  
and Mug Night, Iowa City Yacht Club,  
8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Live Jazz,** Clinton Street Social Club,  
Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (1st & 3rd  
Thursdays)

**THE DUDE ABIDES**  
**FilmScene at Big Grove: 'The  
Big Lebowski,'** Big Grove Brewery &  
Taproom, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

**Karaoke Thursday,** Studio 13, Iowa  
City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Olaz Fük,**  
Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar  
Rapids, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

### FRI., AUG. 17

**RELIVE THE CLASSIC!**  
**'Yellow Submarine,'** FilmScene,  
Iowa City, showtimes TBD

**NON-BINARY VINTAGE CLOTHING**  
**Intraspersion Pop-Up,** White  
Rabbit, Iowa City, 10 a.m.

**Friday Night Out,** Ceramics Center,  
Cedar Rapids, 6:30 p.m., \$40  
(Weekly)

**DAY 1: DON'T MISS THE BLACK TO  
THE FUTURE FASHION SHOW**

**Iowa Soul Festival,** Downtown Iowa  
City, 6:30 p.m., Free

**FAC Dance Party,** The Union, Iowa  
City, 7 p.m. (Weekly)

**OPENING NIGHT! THROUGH AUG. 19**  
**Nolte Academy Presents: 'Side  
Show,'** Coralville Center for the  
Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$17-27

**OPENING NIGHT! THROUGH AUG. 26**  
**'Crimes of the Heart,'** Giving Tree  
Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$15-120

**FOLK ICON**  
**Melanie,** CSPPS Legion Arts, Cedar  
Rapids, 8 p.m., \$28-33

**Sasha Belle Presents: Friday  
Night Drag & Dance Party,**  
Studio 13, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., \$5  
(Weekly)

**SoulShake,** Gabe's, Iowa City, 10  
p.m., Free (Weekly)

**BIJOU AFTER HOURS**  
**'Baby Driver,'** FilmScene, Iowa City,  
11 p.m., Free-\$6.50

### SAT, AUG. 18

**Iowa City Sunday Farmers**  
**Market,** Chauncey Swan Ramp, Iowa  
City, 7:30 a.m. (Weekly)

**Cedar Rapids Downtown Farmers**  
**Market,** 7:30 a.m. (1st & 3rd  
Saturdays)

**ENGLERT WAVELENGTH: DEEPER  
LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS**  
**Making Space: A Workshop,**  
Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 9 a.m.,  
\$25-35



# TOP PICKS: QUAD CITIES

AUG. 15-  
SEPT. 4,  
2018



▲ **The Shacks** Triple Crown Whiskey Bar and Raccoon Motel, Davenport, Friday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., \$10 The Shacks are bringing their dreamy, doo-wop rock to Davenport just a few months after the release of their debut album, *Haze*, which garnered the attention of NPR, BrooklynVegan, Billboard and more. Keep your eyes on this NYC-based group, as we have a feeling the best is yet to come. —Paige Underwood



▲ **Har-di-Har w/ Chrash** Triple Crown Whiskey Bar and Raccoon Motel, Davenport, Saturday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., \$10 The duo Har-di-Har are bringing their psych chamber pop to the QC! If you don't know this Midwest duo now is your chance to catch them live. The couple have been at it for well over half a decade, and it shows. Checkout their latest full length release, *We Will Will You*, released September, 2017. —Johnnie Cluney



▲ **Efrim Manuel Menuck w/ Archeress** Bob Bucko Jr., Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, IL, Wednesday, Aug. 22, 8 p.m., \$15 The experimental solo project of Godspeed You! Black Emperor founding member Efrim Manuel Menuck is loud, droney and devotional. Menuck's special stop at Rozz-Tox is one of only a handful of 2018 tour dates for this project. Avant jazz artist Bob Bucko Jr. and QC shoegazers Archeress will open the show. —PU

**Alternating Currents** Various Venues, Davenport, Thursday, Aug. 23-Sunday, Aug. 26, Free-\$43 After an electrifying inaugural year, Alternating Currents returns to bring more music, comedy, film and art to downtown Davenport. Catch Dr. Dog headline at the Adler—tickets are \$33-43; purchase gets you \$5 off your \$20 weekend pass. Have a good laugh over a great beer at Front Street, sit in on a Q&A with the writers of *A Quiet Place* or check out the incredible chalk art street masterpieces. Many events during the weekend are free. —PU

**Slave To The Grind screening w/ Closet Witch Styx, Rozz-Tox, Rock Island, IL, Friday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., \$5-10** *Slave To The Grind* is the first documentary of its kind. The film's focus is on the history of the grindcore genre, which is a hybrid of the heavy metal and punk scenes of the 1980s. Enjoy exclusive interviews with the pioneers of the genre plus all the blast beats your ears can handle with live performances from Styx (pre-screening) and Closet Witch (after the film). —JC LV/



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# LV / *REVIEW*



**HALLWAYS OF ALWAYS**  
GREY AREA FESTIVAL  
AUGUST 10-11, 2018  
*Photo by Zak Neumann*





# IOWA CITY SOUL FEST

AUG. 17-18, DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY



Photo courtesy of Summer of the Arts

## Friday, Aug. 17

- 6:30 p.m. Friday Night Concert Series with the Maytags and the Candymakers
- 9 p.m. Capital City Steppers
- 9:30 p.m. Black to the Future Fashion Show
- 10 p.m. Soul Shake, Gabe's (affiliated event)

## Saturday, Aug. 18

- 10 a.m. Black Business Leaders Panel, Merge
- 11 a.m. Black Author's Panel, Prairie Lights
- 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Artists & FUN Stops
- 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Culinary Corner
- 11:30 a.m. Lived Experiences Barbershop Panel, Merge
- 12:30 p.m. Jordan Shepard Choir
- 12:50 p.m. Ordained 2 Praise
- 1:05 p.m. Cymaron Dawson/LWKC Choir
- 1:25 p.m. Set the Atmosphere
- 1:40 p.m. Kingdom Center Choir
- 2 p.m. Capital City Steppers
- 3:45 p.m. Dream Divas
- 4:20 p.m. Flip Squad
- 4:45 p.m. African Singers and Dancers
- 5 p.m. Da Team
- 6 p.m. Jay and Family Fusion
- 7 p.m. Damani Phillips Band (pictured)
- 9 p.m. The Front Page Band
- 10:30 p.m. DJ Freeze, Gabe's (affiliated event)
- 10:30 p.m. Hip Hop Show, Yacht Club (affiliated event)

## EDITORS' PICKS

DAY 2: DON'T MISS DREAM DIVAS AND DAMANI PHILLIPS BAND!

**Iowa Soul Fest**, Downtown Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free

**Pop-Up Market**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m. (Weekly)

**Family Storytime**, Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free (Weekly)

**I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop**, Public Space One, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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**Barks & Brew**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 2 p.m., \$20-300

THIS WEEK: BLACK PANTHER

**2018 Free Movie Series**, Outside McBride Hall, Iowa City, Times vary, Free (Weekly)

**Elation Dance Party**, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5 (Weekly)

IOWA CITY ALT EMO PUNK

**Scamper.**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9:30 p.m., \$8-10

BIJOU AFTER HOURS

**'The Blair Witch Project,'** FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-\$6.50

# SUN., AUG. 19

**Sunday Yoga in the Shake Room**, Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., \$15 (Weekly)

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**Sunday Funday**, Iowa City Public Library, Iowa City, 2 p.m., Free (Weekly)

GRAVELLY VOICED FOLK-BLUES

**Sean Rowe**, CSPS Legion Arts, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$15-18

**Pub Quiz**, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$1 (Weekly)

## MON., AUG. 20

**Open Mic**, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Honeycombs of Comedy**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$3 (Weekly)

## TUE., AUG. 21

**Cultivate Hope Market**, Cultivate Hope Urban Farm, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m. (Weekly)

**Practice in the Prairie**, Indian Creek Nature Center, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

READING FROM: 'THE SHAKESPEARE REQUIREMENT'  
**Julie Schumacher**, Prairie Lights, Iowa City 7 p.m., Free

**Blues Jam**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Yahoo Drummers**, Downtown Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Weekly Old-Timey Jam Sessions**, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Comedy & Karaoke**, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

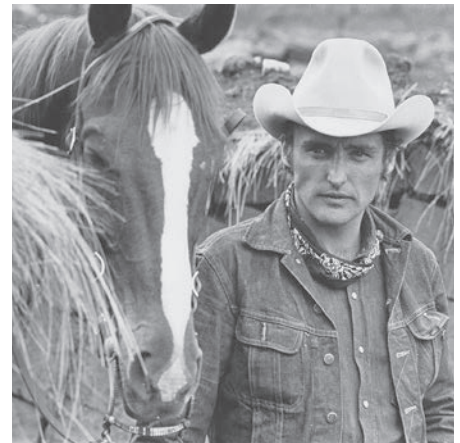
**Karaoke Tuesdays**, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

## WED., AUG. 22

A POP-UP SHOP THAT BREAKS THE CYCLE. RISES ABOVE. FOCUSES ON SCIENCE.

**The Rickmobile**, Lion Bridge Brewing Company, Iowa City, 5 p.m.

**Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5 (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)



THIS WEEK: 'THE LAST MOVIE'

▲ **Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 (Weekly)

**Talk Art**, The Mill, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., Free (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)

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Bisi Williams	David Gould
Paulo Simas	Sarah Gardial
Kent Stock	Ryan Siskow

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# TOP PICKS: WATERLOO/CEDAR FALLS

AUG. 15-SEPT. 4, 2018

**Gran Fondo Cedar Valley+Fondo Fest Downtown Cedar Falls, Saturday, Aug. 18, 7 a.m., Free-\$70** Cyclists, strap on your helmets! Choose from the 100 mile Gran Fondo (\$70) or the 50 mile Medio Fondo (\$50) rides that kick off at 7 a.m., or just join in the free family fun at Fondo Fest starting at noon and culminating in a show from Boston's high groove dance band Ripe at 7 p.m.



**▲ NCC Motocross National Cattle Congress Fairgrounds, Waterloo, Saturday, Aug. 18, 12 p.m., Free-\$40** Gates open at noon for the second-to-last race of the season. Watch the festivities, starting at 5 p.m., with a \$10 pit pass (kids 5 and under free), or rev your engines for \$40 Big Bike entry or \$35 Mini Race entry (AMA cards required). Practice begins at 3 p.m. Get dirty!

**CVP Art Exhibit Opening Reception Waterloo Convention Center, Monday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m., Free** Cedar Valley Pridefest will announce the People's Choice Award winner at this opening reception for its annual art show of LGBT-themed work from area artists of all skill levels. The exhibit will also be open for viewing during Pridefest.

**Cedar Valley Pridefest Downtown Waterloo, Friday, Aug. 24-Saturday, Aug. 25, 5:30 p.m., Free-\$40** Now expanded to two days, the Cedar Valley Pridefest offers a variety of opportunities to enjoy the festivities. Children 12 and under are free with an adult, Saturday-only tickets

are \$10 and passes for the whole weekend are \$40. The event is street-fair style, music throughout. Friday headliners are the Indigo Girls, playing the main stage at 9 p.m. Saturday headliner is Thea Austin, the iconic voice (and co-writer) of Snap!'s hit "Rhythm is a Dancer."



Colby Campbell

**▲ Bob Washut Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, Saturday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., \$5** Renowned jazz keyboardist Bob Washut may have retired from his teaching position at the University of Northern Iowa School of Music this spring, but the release of his CD *Journey to Nowhere* certainly keeps him gigging. Catch the composer and his band on their return to Octopus.

**Wet Hop Mash Off—Brew Day Lark Brewing and Cedar Falls Hop Company, Waterloo, Friday, Aug. 31-Saturday, Sept. 1, \$1-10** Let the preparations begin, home brewers! Lark Brewing is partnering with Cedar Falls Hop Company for a home brew competition. Tasting and judging aren't until October, but this is the weekend to pick up your supplies. You can use homegrown hops or pick fresh wet hops for \$1 per ounce on Friday from 4-7 p.m. or Saturday 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Cedar Falls Hop Farm. Available: Cascade, Columbia, Southern Cross, Crystal, Mackinac, Mt. Hood, Newport, Glacier. The competition will create wort for the participants, which can be purchased (at \$10 for up to seven gallons) on Saturday from 12-3 p.m. at Lark Brewing. LV/



## EDITORS' PICKS

### THU., AUG. 23

READING FROM: 'THE GREAT BELIEVERS'

**Rebecca Makkai**, Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

IOWA ROCKERS IN THEIR 25TH YEAR

**The Nadas w/ Courtney Krause**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$15

LOCAL FAVORITE ROOTS REGGAE

**Aaron Kamm and the One Drops**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$10

### FRI., AUG. 24

TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION:

SEPARATED AT BIRTH EDITION

**'Three Identical Strangers,'** FilmScene, Iowa City, showtimes TBD

**NewBo Open Coffee**, Roasters Coffeehouse in NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., Free (2nd & 4th Fridays)

THIS WEEK: SHADE OF BLUE

**Friday Night Concert Series**, Downtown Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

JAM BAND EXTRAORDINAIRE

**The Beaker Brothers Band**, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 8 p.m., \$10

CHICAGO PUNK ROCK

**Kali Masi w/ Seven Minutes Til Midnight**, Hot Room, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$8

### SAT., AUG. 25

LUNCH @ WILDWOOD, LAGUNITAS @ GABE'S

**Wildride Bikeride to Wildwood**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 11 a.m., Free

**Iowa City Latino Festival**, Downtown Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free

BENEFIT FOR TANAGER PLACE

**Ales & Tails Crawfish Boil w/ music from New Riverside Ramblers**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 3 p.m., \$10-35

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## EDITORS' PICKS

"FIVE UNIQUE TAKES ON THE BLUES"

**Big Grove Backyard Blues Festival**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 4 p.m., \$5

ALISABETH VON PRESLEY; 10 OF SOUL PERFORMING

**Market After Dark**, Downtown Cedar Rapids, 6:30 p.m., Free

**The Righteous Brothers**, Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$47.50-95

THIS WEEK: 'STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI'

**2018 Free Movie Series**, Outside Mcbride Hall, Iowa City, Times vary, Free (Weekly)

BIJOU AFTER HOURS

**'What We Do in the Shadows,'** FilmScene, Iowa City, 11 p.m., Free-\$6.50

## SUN., AUG. 26

**Iowa City Monarch Festival**, Terry Trueblood Recreation Area, 1 p.m., Free

CLOSING PERFORMANCE

**'The Tin Woman,'** Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$12-31.50

BLUES & SOUL

**Lauren Mitchell**, Famous Mockingbird, Marion, 6 p.m., \$20

BLACK METAL OUT OF WASHINGTON STATE

**Abigail Williams w/ Ghost Bath, Wolfhammer**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$15-17

HOWL AFTER DARK AT THE FULL STURGEON MOON

**Moonlight Hike**, Harvest Preserve Foundation, Iowa City, 7:15 p.m., Free-\$5 suggested donation

**THE CAKE**  
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by Arthur Miller

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## EDITORS' PICKS

**Good Vibes Tour with Jason Mraz, Brett Dennen**, McGrath Amphitheatre, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$44-98

## MON., AUG. 27

WASHINGTON STATE ANTI-FOLK

**Origami Ghosts w/ rubbur**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

## TUE., AUG. 28

**Cultivate Hope Market**, Cultivate Hope Urban Farm, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m. (Weekly)

**Practice in the Prairie**, Indian Creek Nature Center, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Blues Jam**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Yahoo Drummers**, Downtown Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Weekly Old-Timey Jam Sessions**, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Comedy & Karaoke**, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Karaoke Tuesdays**, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)

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## WED., AUG. 29

THIS WEEK: 'TRIGGERED'

**Late Shift at the Grindhouse**, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 (Weekly)

## THU., AUG. 30

LIVESTREAM FREE AT MERGE OR  
KIRKWOOD REGIONAL CENTER

**TEDx Iowa City**, hotelVetro, 1 p.m., \$100

READING FROM: 'THE ONLY GIRL'

**Robin Green**, Prairie Lights, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

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**Abandoned By Bears w/ Light Up the Sky**,  
Boys of Fall, Iowa City Yacht Club, 7 p.m., \$8-10

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**The Usual Things w/ RADDA RADD**, Blue  
Moose Tap House, 8 p.m., \$5-7



## FRI., AUG. 31

**NewBo Open Coffee**, Roasters Coffeehouse in  
NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., Free

SURVIVAL AT CONVERSION CAMP

▲ **'The Miseducation of Cameron Post,'**  
FilmScene, Iowa City, showtimes TBD



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## EDITORS' PICKS

Zak Neumann



THIS WEEK: YOUNGER, ANTHONY WORDEN AND OTROS OUTROS

**Friday Night Concert Series**, Downtown Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

ROOTS ROCK BROTHER TRUCKER SIDE PROJECT

**Andy Fleming & the Sweet Nothings**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free

BENEFIT FOR THE IOWA HARM REDUCTION COALITION

◀ **Volte-Face—An Event In Recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day: Sinner Frenz w/ Astrodome, Brooks Strause, Liv Carrow, ZUUL, DJ A to the K**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$10 suggested donation

## SAT., SEPT. 1

CELEBRATE WOMEN IN MUSIC!

**NewBo Women's Music Festival**, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 11 a.m., Free

AN EPIC DAY OF EPIC PUNK

**Bloated Kat III**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 3 p.m., \$12

## SUN., SEPT. 2

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

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**Corey McCauley & the Hop Jam Brew**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

## MON., SEPT. 3

**Open Mic**, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Honeycombs of Comedy**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$3 (Weekly)

## TUE., SEPT. 4

**Cultivate Hope Market**, Cultivate Hope Urban Farm, Cedar Rapids, 4:30 p.m. (Weekly)

**Practice in the Prairie**, Indian Creek Nature Center, 6 p.m., Free (Weekly)

ADULTS & AGE 16+ IF ACCOMPANIED

**Fluid Art: Acrylic Pouring Techniques**, Eastern Iowa Art Academy, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$40

**Blues Jam**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Yahoo Drummers**, Downtown Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Weekly Old-Timey Jam Sessions**, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Comedy & Karaoke**, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free (Weekly)

**Karaoke Tuesdays**, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free (Weekly)



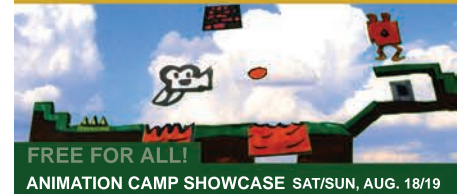
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THU, AUGUST 16



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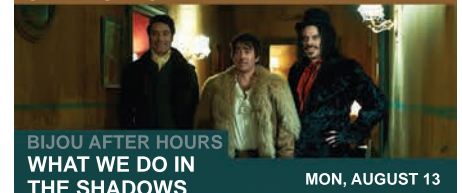
A SUMMER ROOFTOP EVENT  
**REAR WINDOW**

SUN, AUGUST 19



A SUMMER ROOFTOP EVENT  
**THREE IDENTICAL STRANGERS**

OPENS AUGUST 24



BIJOU AFTER HOURS  
**WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS**

MON, AUGUST 13



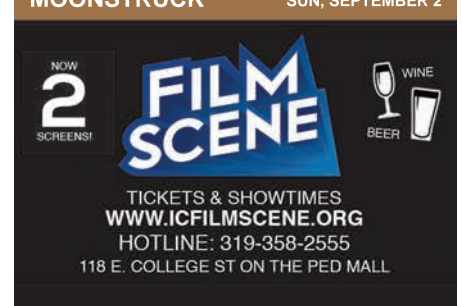
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SUN, SEPTEMBER 2



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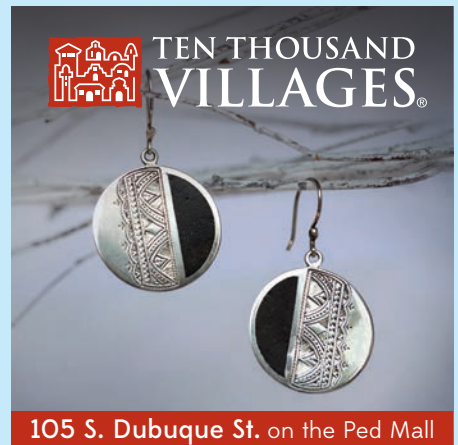
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## YOUR VILLAGE BY PAUL BRENNAN

**After spending several weeks at UIHC and paying outlandish parking prices, I am wondering who owns and receives the revenue from the parking lots? I was told by several medical staff members that it is the University of Iowa Athletic Department and UIHC that receives the parking revenues. Is this true? —Mitch, Iowa City, via email**

**T**hat's not accurate, but it's a common myth that's out there," said Jim Sayre, director of the University of Iowa Department of Parking and Transportation. "I'm not sure how it started or where it's coming from."

The department is responsible for all of UI's 16,434 parking spaces, including those at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, and all the fees and fines go to it. The Iowa Board of Regents requires the parking departments of each of its three universities—UI, Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa—to be self-supporting, using the fees and fines it collects to pay for operations, maintenance and capital improvements, with no additional money from the universities or other state funds.

But rumors about shady deals involving parking revenues persist. Sayre said he recently received a phone call from a concerned citizen who heard parking fees

were secretly being funneled to the UI Athletics Department to pay for coaches' salaries.

"We don't share that revenue with Athletics," Sayre said. "None of that money is going to coaches' salaries."

Parking and Transportation did earmark some funds in its fiscal year 2019 budget for another UI institution—a \$5 million donation to help pay for construction of the new UI Museum of Art. The donation has been placed on hold, since museum construction was halted due to state budget cuts.

The department had \$5 million to spare, because it's very profitable. According to the latest Regents budget report on parking, the department netted \$9,967,819 in income from fees and fines in FY 2017. The same report projected the department would net more than \$7 million from fees and fines in FY 2018 and more than \$8 million in FY 2019. **LV**

**LV**

*Have a question about what's going on in your community? Ask Little Village. Submit your questions through the Your Village feature on our homepage, or email us at [editor@littlevillagemag.com](mailto:editor@littlevillagemag.com).*

### Where's Straight Dope?

After 45 years of "fighting ignorance," Cecil Adams' entertaining and uber-educational Straight Dope column has sadly been discontinued.

Straight Dope allegedly began as an idea from a staffer at the *Chicago Reader*: a column where readers send in questions and an omniscient author answers them. That author was Cecil Adams, "the world's smartest human." (Adams is actually a pseudonym for a number of coy editors over the years.)

From its first question in 1973 to 2018, "Adams" and his staff have fielded more than 3,400 inquiries, from "If you hold your eyelids open while sneezing, will your eyes pop out?" to "What's so great about Shakespeare?"

*Little Village* has published Straight Dope since August 2008, and was one of only 11 alt-weeklies subscribed to the column at the end. Adams' final piece, published online on June 27, points to the planned sale of the *Chicago Reader* as the impetus for Straight Dope's retirement.

Dope may be done, but a full catalogue of columns is available at [StraightDope.com](http://StraightDope.com) to peruse. As for the future of this space, we've recruited our own all-knowing (and all-too-real) writer Paul Brennan, *Little Village's* news director, to adapt his popular online Q&A series "Your Village" to print. Enjoy!

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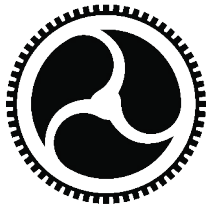
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## ASTROLOGY BY ROB BREZSNEY

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): "Whoever does not visit Paris regularly will never really be elegant," wrote French author Honoré de Balzac. I think that's an exaggeration, but it does trigger a worthwhile meditation. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're in a phase of your cycle when you have maximum power to raise your appreciation of elegance, understand how it could beautify your soul and add more of it to your repertoire. So here are your homework meditations: What does elegance mean to you? Why might it be valuable to cultivate elegance, not just to enhance your self-presentation, but also to upgrade your relationship with your deep self? (P.S.: Fashion designer Christian Dior said, "Elegance must be the right combination of distinction, naturalness, care and simplicity.")

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Many of us imagine medieval Europe to have been drab and dreary. But historian Jacques Le Goff tells us that the people of that age adored luminous hues: "big jewels inserted into ... book-bindings, glowing gold objects, brightly painted sculpture, paintings covering the walls of churches ... and the colored magic of stained glass." Maybe you'll be inspired by this revelation, Virgo. I hope so. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you can activate sleeping wisdom and awaken dormant energy by treating your eyes to lots of vivid reds, greens, yellows, blues, browns, oranges, purples, golds, blacks, coppers and pinks.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): An astrologer on Tumblr named Sebastian says this about your sign: "Libras can be boring people when they don't trust you enough to fully reveal themselves. But they can be just as exciting as any fire sign and just as weird as any Aquarius and just as talkative as a Gemini and just as empathetic as a Pisces. Really, Librans are some of the most eccentric people you'll ever meet, but you might not know it unless they trust you enough to take their masks off around you." Spurred by Sebastian's analysis, here's my advice to you: I hope you'll spend a lot of time with people you trust in the coming weeks, because for the sake of your mental and physical and spiritual health, you'll need to express your full eccentricity. (Sebastian's at [venuspapi.tumblr.com](http://venuspapi.tumblr.com).)

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A blogger who calls herself Wistful Giselle has named the phenomena that make her "believe in magic." They include the following: "illuminated dust in the air; the moments when a seedling sprouts; the intelligence gazing back at me from a crow's eyes; being awoken by the early morning sun; the energy of storms; old buildings overgrown with plants; the ever-changing grey green blue moods of the sea; the shimmering moon on a cool, clear night." I invite you to compile your own list, Scorpio. You're entering a time when you will be the beneficiary of magic in direct proportion to how much you believe in and are alert for magic. Why not go for the maximum?

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Since 1969, 8-foot-2-inch-tall Big Bird has been the star of the kids' TV show *Sesame Street*. He's a yellow bird puppet who can talk, write poetry, dance and roller skate. In the early years of the show, our hero had a good friend who no one else saw or believed in, Mr. Snuffleupagus. After 17 years, there came a happy day when everyone else in the Sesame Street neighborhood realized that Snuffy was indeed real, not just a figment of Big Bird's imagination. I'm foreseeing a comparable event in your life sometime soon, Sagittarius. You'll finally be able to share a secret truth or private pleasure or unappreciated asset.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Activist and author Simone de Beauvoir was one of those Capricorns whose lust for life was both lush and intricate. "I am awfully greedy," she wrote. "I want to be a woman and to be a man, to have many friends and to have loneliness, to work much and write good books, to

travel and enjoy myself, to be selfish and to be unselfish." Even if your longings are not always as lavish and ravenous as hers, Capricorn, you now have license to explore the mysterious state she described. I dare you to find out how voracious you can be if you grant yourself permission.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): According to my reading of the astrological omens, the coming weeks will be prime time to vividly express your appreciation for and understanding of the people you care about most. I urge you to show them why you love them. Reveal the depths of your insights about their true beauty. Make it clear how their presence in your life has had a beneficent or healing influence on you. And if you really want to get dramatic, you could take them to an inspiring outdoor spot and sing them a tender song or two.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): In her book *Yarn: Remembering the Way Home*, Piscean knitter Kyoko Mori writes, "The folklore among knitters is that everything handmade should have at least one mistake so an evil spirit will not become trapped in the maze of perfect stitches." The idea is that the mistake "is a crack left open to let in the light." Mori goes on to testify about the evil spirit she wants to be free of. "It's that little voice in my head that says, 'I won't even try this because it doesn't come naturally to me and I won't be very good at it.'" I've quoted Mori at length, Pisces, because I think her insights are the exact tonic you need right now.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): "The prettier the garden, the dirtier the hands of the gardener," writes aphorist B. E. Barnes. That'll be especially applicable to you in the coming weeks. You'll have extra potential to create and foster beauty, and any beauty you produce will generate practical benefits for you and those you care about. But for best results, you'll have to expend more effort than maybe you thought you should. It might feel more like work than play—even though it will ultimately enhance your ability to play.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Author and theologian Thomas Merton thought that the most debilitating human temptation is to settle for too little; to live a comfortable life rather than an interesting one. I wouldn't say that's always true about you, Taurus. But I do suspect that in the coming weeks, a tendency to settle for less could be the single most devitalizing temptation you'll be susceptible to. That's why I encourage you to resist the appeal to accept a smaller blessing or punier adventure than you deserve. Hold out for the best and brightest.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): "I've learned quite a lot, over the years, by avoiding what I was supposed to be learning." So says the wise and well-educated novelist Margaret Atwood. Judging by your current astrological omens, I think this is an excellent clue for you to contemplate right now. What do you think? Have you been half-avoiding any teaching that you or someone else thinks you're "supposed" to be learning? If so, I suggest you avoid it even stronger. Avoid it with cheerful rebelliousness. Doing so may lead you to what you *really* need to learn about next.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Sometimes you make it difficult for me to reach you. You act like you're listening but you're not really listening. You semi-consciously decide that you don't want to be influenced by anyone except yourself. When you lock me out like that, I become a bit dumb. My advice isn't as good or helpful. The magic between us languishes. Please don't do that to me now. And don't do it to anyone who cares about you. I realize that you may need to protect yourself from people who aren't sufficiently careful with you. But your true allies have important influences to offer, and I think you'll be wise to open yourself to them. **L.V.**



## THRIO

### *We Like to Have Fun*

[www.facebook.com/thriomusic](http://www.facebook.com/thriomusic)  
[thrio.bandcamp.com/releases](http://thrio.bandcamp.com/releases)

In the bio for Eastern Iowa jazz trio Thrio, they describe themselves as “chord-less”—a somewhat clumsy way to explain that the band, as a trio of sax, bass and drums, doesn’t incorporate any instruments that play chords (keyboards or guitars for example).

This isn’t a new idea for jazz—in fact, Sonny Rollins is credited with pioneering this configuration in 1957, which in turn influenced sax-led trios for decades to follow. In an interview with *The New York Times* in 2007, Rollins said that the lack of piano allowed him freedom to play outside of a song structure typically dictated by it.

With Thrio’s new EP, *We Like to Have Fun*, we get a close look at a band in this configuration. All three members have played in other area jazz bands: Goose Town, Blake Shaw Quintet and The Commons Collective. With Thrio, Chris Jensen (drums), Nolan Schroeder (tenor sax) and Blake Shaw (double bass/vocals) have a departure from what they’ve done before.

As you might expect, the songs on the EP are fairly minimal, with all of the melodic lifting being done by the tenor sax and double bass—which isn’t to say there isn’t a lot going on here. Schroeder and Shaw weave back and forth, exchanging leads and coming back together, accomplishing what they set out to do, which is create songs where a piano wouldn’t be missed. The band works as a team in service of the songs here—not a lot of stepping out with extended improvisational solos.

To that end all of these songs are strictly sticking to melody and theme with a really nice rhythm and groove leaning towards blues. The songs are not overly long, either, which helps bring them to focus for the listener. It reminds me a lot of the instrumentation in the band Morphine, which was also bass, sax and drums. This is particularly evident in the album closer “Alone To(freakin’)gether,” when the sax and bass come together in harmony.

Compositional austerity—the idea that “less is more”—is a compelling one, often revisited in the arts. For *We Like to Have Fun*, stripping jazz back to the basics makes for a fresh, interesting release in a genre often defined by the complex and elaborate.

—Michael Roeder



## YOUNG CHARLES

### *Armageddon Party Dress*

[youngcharles.bandcamp.com/album/armageddon-party-dress](http://youngcharles.bandcamp.com/album/armageddon-party-dress)

**Elizabeth Moen Album Release w. Hot Tang, Young Charles Englert Theatre, Friday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m., \$12-15**

Mitch McAndrew, both the vocal and songwriting chops behind Young Charles, comes across on the band’s debut, *Armageddon Party Dress*, as a jazz composer who desperately wants to be a folk singer (with a slight addiction to pop melancholy). The genres fuse and break, weave in and out of each other in ways that evoke the mid- to late-’70s years when Joni Mitchell

and Billy Joel were contemporaries.

Like those two powerhouses, McAndrew and the rest of Young Charles (Harrison Horgan on guitar, Erich Martin on bass, Skyler Gonzalez on keys and David Galloway on drums) seem loath to maintain any one genre for too long. Tracks one and two on the wide-ranging record—“Palm” and the title track—set a firm foundation for the jazzy phrasings and instrumentations scattered throughout the rest of the disc (it’s no surprise to learn that *Armageddon Party Dress* was recorded and engineered by nouveau-avant-jazz genre-destroyer Dana Telsrow).

Track three, “Octavio,” is the first distillation of the album’s disparate influences: a bright, catchy, pop hook with a noodling, curious, folksy guitar and just enough melodic and rhythmic catches to remind the listener of the jazz passion underpinning the lot.

Track six, “Where It’s From and What It’s For,” serves much the same purpose. It’s an incredibly solid song, one that could easily be covered in any number of simpler, more straightforward styles. But here, although it starts with a folk-infused, almost alt-country guitar and melody, it just keeps adding layers, with a lounge-y keyboard line that lures the vocals along, bringing them in line with it stylistically as it gains prominence in the mix. It’s a song that forces the listener to question the sometimes arbitrary lines we draw between genres.

“Posture Kid (Forced It),” which vies with “Octavio” as the record’s most obvious single, is a nearly straightforward rock tune that allows McAndrew to impress with his vocal versatility, although it’s obviously not the style he finds most comfortable. He’s most entertaining (and clearly having the most fun) in a folk register—but he’s most impressive with his Thom Yorke-channeling turn on “Ides,” exhibiting an enviable precision and control.

*Armageddon Party Dress* is a vibrant 10-track debut that moves too fast and leaves the listener wondering what new territory Young Charles will explore next. LV/

—Genevieve Trainor



# SWITCHING ARMS BY ERIN RHODE

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.

## ACROSS

1. *Baroness von Sketch Show* network
4. Revealed
9. Alternative to tomato sauce
14. Female rabbit
15. It's really just a vehicle for eating Nutella, IMO
16. Superior alternative to lambskin
17. Rose at the beginning?
18. Very polite gobbler?
20. Certain identity concealers
22. Look after a lab, perhaps
23. Skipper, for one
24. Very
25. 20 percent, often
27. Ghost that haunts the coasts of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi?
31. CSS and JavaScript may spruce it up
32. Airport abbr.
33. Lean
34. Fashion designer Johnson
36. What stringent tariffs can cause, and what 18- and 57-Across and

- 27- and 46-Across each do, as pairs
38. One who might hook you up with good contacts, for short
41. \_\_\_ fever (was ill)
42. Comfy attire, briefly
45. Comfy attire, briefly
46. Live online video of Pope Francis?
49. Cry heard at an "aha!" moment
50. "I'm gonna have to step \_\_\_ game ..."
51. Something often seen at the top of a window
52. Military cut (that my grandfather gave my uncle on family picture day; my grandmother never forgave him) purportedly named because it made one's head look like a butt
54. Winter Olympic sport at which Nigeria debuted in 2018
57. What you might get if you insult the waitstaff?
59. Net relative
60. *A Confederacy of Dunces* author
61. 10 percent, often
62. Opposition

## LV248 ANSWERS

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

63. Ed of *Up*
64. Fabulous writer
65. Gave change to, as a parking meter

## DOWN

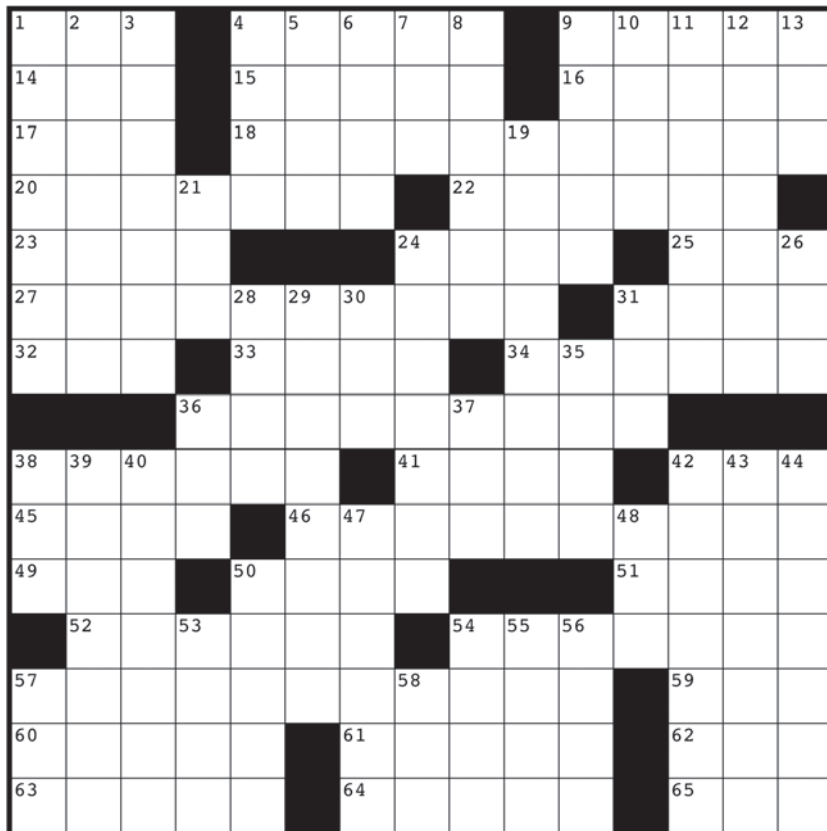
1. One might open an office door

2. Pop up behind the catcher, perhaps
3. Façade part
4. Secretly includes on an email, for short
5. Grammy winner India
6. New England soccer team, for short
7. \_\_\_ Pen (allergy sufferer's need)
8. Programming language surprisingly not invented by Oracle
9. It's not a planet—get over it

10. They have cavities
11. Birthplace of singer Joan Armatrading
12. Green reservation
13. Name in acne cream
19. Nuclear agreements
21. Gordon Shumway's nickname
24. One who may change bedpans
26. Sheet in the bathroom
28. Houston ballplayer, for short
29. Certain summer fruit dessert

30. Like Sen. Angus King of Maine
31. Washington \_\_\_ (NYC neighborhood)
35. Latin 101 word
36. You might get them by rushing: Abbr.
37. Extremely, informally
38. Like a teenager who is definitely not goth
39. Some chocolate drinks
40. Tier
42. Strip
43. Norma McCorvey, in a Supreme Court case

44. Got messed up, as makeup
47. Dangerous code to break
48. Apt. parts
50. Racer AI, or AI Jr., or a bunch of other ones
53. Off for the week, as a football team
54. Computational units
55. 2x4, in Mexico
56. [Censored]
57. El runner
58. Battle



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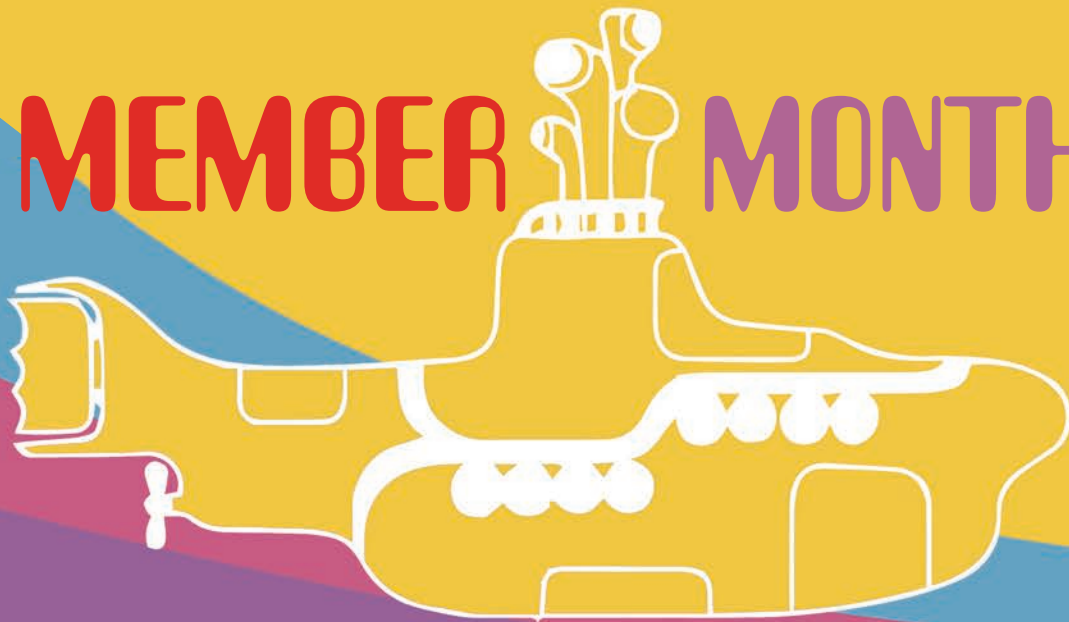
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