AURORA CREATES
Arts & History Worth Discovering
November - December 2022

LIBRARY AND CULTURAL SERVICES

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY
The Havana Business Improvement District and the city of Aurora Art in Public Places Program are pleased to announce the 11th rendition of Art 2C on Havana Street. This sculpture exhibition presents new artworks every two years at 12 locations along the Havana Corridor, from Concorde Healthcare Training, at 111 Havana St. on the north to Dartmouth Avenue on the south, providing professional opportunities for artists, cultivating an environment where creative individuals thrive and contributing to economic development. This year, the Aurora community can see the works of four artists new to this program: Vanny Channal, Kasia Polkowska, Sean Yarborough, and Stephen Landis; along with new work by Reven Swanson, Gregory Fields, Christopher Thompson, Annette Coleman and Charlotte Zink.

Vanny Channal’s Cambodian parents escaped the genocide of the killing fields and resettled in Long Beach, California, where Channal was born. After moving to Philadelphia, he found employment with the zoo, where he learned metal fabrication. This grew into sculptural works using recycled metal. He now lives in Brighton, Colorado where he creates dynamic large-scale sculptures of animals. His sculpture, “Kou-Prey,” is located at Stampede, 2430 S. Havana St.

Stephen Landis draws from diverse influences from time spent living and teaching in Canada, Mexico, France, Austria and Spain. He studied art at the University of Denver, receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts, followed by the NY Academy of Art, where he completed his Master of Fine Arts. He is an award-winning sculptor, living and working in Loveland, Colorado. You will find his graceful “Snowy Owl” in front of Mazel Motors.

Kasia Polkowska lives in Pagosa Springs, Colorado amid the beautiful San Juan Mountains. She was born in Poland and grew up in the United States, where she attended the Pratt Institute in New York. She creates both two- and three-dimensional works that embrace color and celebrate life. “Bloom” brightens Main Street at the Gardens on Havana.

Sean Yarbrough says, “My goal as an artist is to stretch the mind of the viewer and expand their view of the universe and self through abstract, imaginative, beautiful imagery.” Born and raised in Colorado, he acknowledges his photographer father as one of his most significant influences. His sculptures can be seen at Havana Towers and Western Centers.

The Art 2C on Havana exhibition offers residents and visitors a unique way to experience the Havana Business Improvement District while connecting regional artists to our communities. Public art such as this boosts real estate values and creates opportunities for local businesses to flourish.

To learn more about the exhibit and the Art in Public Places program, visit AuroraGov.org/PublicArt.
Aurora Dance Arts has been hard at work in rehearsals for “Are We In Kansas, Yet?” This show is a unique twist on the classic tale of the Wizard of Oz. Aurora Dance Arts has been busily pulling together a large variety of musical selections that include songs from the original movie soundtrack, “The Wiz,” “Wicked” and other sources. Creative, colorful costuming, props and sets are also in development for this special show. Dancers are learning tons of new choreography and enhancing their dancing with the personalities of all the beloved characters.

Please join Aurora Dance Arts “somewhere over the rainbow” as they produce this timeless and imaginative story to be danced to life the first weekend of November on the Aurora Fox Arts Center stage, 9900 E. Colfax Ave. This production brings together many age groups and levels. The story was carefully selected for the large amount of wacky and wonderful characters as well as its beloved nostalgia. This show is family friendly and is sure to warm the audience’s hearts and delight their senses with all the special magic of Aurora Dance Arts’ theatrical dance productions! “Follow the yellow brick road” to purchase tickets at AuroraFox.org.

The Aurora History Museum and the Aurora Museum Foundation are excited to host the 23rd Annual Festival of Wreaths, a festive annual fundraiser featuring wreaths decorated by local businesses, organizations and individuals. Wreath donors decorate a wreath for display and recognition at the museum and online. The museum then selects wreaths for a live auction at the opening event, which is taking place Nov. 10. This year’s proceeds will contribute to the development and support of exhibits, public programs and events offered by the Aurora History Museum & Historic Sites. The Aurora Museum Foundation is a separated nonprofit that advocates for funding and community support to ensure the continued viability of the museum. The exhibition will be on display from Nov. 8 to Dec. 9.

Additional information to participate and decorate a wreath is available at AuroraMuseumFoundation.org.
**NOVEMBER**

4
27th Annual Gateway to the Rockies Art Show Opening Night Reception  
Friday, 5 to 7:30 p.m.  
Community College of Aurora, Fine Arts Building  
AuroraArtistsGuild.com

“Are We in Kansas Yet?” Opening Night  
Friday, 7:30 p.m. | Aurora Fox Arts Center  
Tickets: AuroraFox.org

KidX Club® story time with Aurora Public Library  
Friday, 11 a.m. to noon | Town Center at Aurora

10
Festival of Wreaths Gallery Opening  
Thursday, 4 to 7 p.m. | Aurora History Museum

11 & 12  
Aurora Potters Guild  
2022 Fall Sale  
Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Community College of Aurora, 16000 E. Centretech Parkway

15  
Aurora Rhythms: El Javi  
Tuesday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. | Mission Viejo Library

18  
Arsenic and Old Lace Live Radio Show  
Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. | Aurora Center for Active Adults

25  
The Jedi Handbook Opening Night  
Friday, 7:30 p.m.  
Aurora Fox Arts Theater  
Tickets: AuroraFoxArtsCenter.org

27  
All Ages Jazz Jam  
Sunday, 1 to 3 p.m. | The People’s Building

**DECEMBER**

2  
DAVA’s Annual Holiday Show & Sale  
Friday, 4 to 7 p.m. | 1405 Florence St.

3  
Colfax Art Jams  
Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.  
Fletcher Plaza and Martin Luther King Jr. Library

10 & 11  
Aurora Symphony Orchestra  
Christmas Holiday Celebration  
Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, 3 p.m.  
Cherokee Trail High School, 25901 E. Arapahoe Rd.  
Tickets: BownPaperTickets.com

13  
Aurora Rhythms: It’s a Wonderful Life, Live Radio Show  
Tuesday, 6:30 to 8 p.m. | Tallyn’s Reach Library

16  
It’s a Wonderful Life, Live Radio Show  
Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. | Aurora Center for Active Adults

17  
Holiday Open House at Centennial House  
Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. | Aurora History Museum

18  
It’s a Wonderful Life Radio Drama & Holiday Tea  
Sunday, 4 to 6 p.m. | Aurora History Museum  
Times and information: AuroraMuseum.org
ONGOING PROGRAMS

Aurora History Museum
Local Authors Winter Lecture Series $  
Dec. 2 to 11, various times | Aurora History Museum  
Times and information: AuroraMuseum.org

Holiday Open House at Delaney Farm  
Dec. 3 & 4, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Aurora History Museum  
Information: AuroraMuseum.org

Theatre & Performing Arts

Aurora Dance Arts presents  
“Are We In Kansas, Yet?” $  
Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Nov. 5, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.  
Nov. 6, 2:30 p.m.  
The Aurora Fox Arts Center | Tickets: AuroraFox.org

Monty Python’s Spamalot $  
Nov. 4 to Dec. 11 | Tickets: VintageTheatre.org

DOT An Unforgettable Holiday Comedy $  
Nov. 11 to Dec. 18 | Tickets: VintageTheatre.org

The Jedi Handbook $  
Nov. 25 to Dec. 18 | Aurora Fox Arts Theater  
Tickets: AuroraFoxArtsCenter.org

Acts of Faith $  
Jan. 20 to Feb. 5 | Aurora Fox Arts Theater  
Tickets: AuroraFoxArtsCenter.org

Exhibits

Painting Exhibition by Amelia Velasco  
Through Nov. 30 | Tallyn’s Reach Library

Pencil Portraits by Paul Ortiz  
Through to Nov. 30 | MLK Jr. Library

27th Annual Gateway to the Rockies Art Show  
Nov 4 to Dec. 9 | 16000 E. CentreTech Parkway  
Times and information: AuroraArtistsGuild.com

23rd Annual Festival of Wreaths Exhibit  
Nov. 8 to Dec. 9 | Aurora History Museum  
Times and information: AuroraMuseum.org

“Pride on Your Side” Photography Exhibit  
Through Dec. 31 | Aurora Central Library  
Information: AuroraLibrary.org

Cyanotype Exhibit  
Through Dec. 31 | MLK Jr. Library  
Information: AuroraLibrary.org

Graphite Exhibition by Janette Hester  
Dec. 1 to Jan. 31 | Tallyn’s Reach Library

Painting Exhibition by Monica Gatica  
Dec. 1 to Jan. 31 | MLK Jr. Library

Art for Adults (Ages 14 and up)

Drawing $  
Oct. 25 to Nov. 15, Tues., 6 to 8 p.m.  
Code: 55842 | Expo Rec Center

Watercolor Tuesdays $  
Nov. 15 to Dec. 13, Tues., 10 a.m. to noon  
Code: 55844 | Aurora Center for Active Adults

Watercolor & Ink Designs $  
Nov. 17 to Dec. 15, Thurs., 1 to 3:30 p.m.  
Code: 55847 | Aurora Center for Active Adults

Polymer Clay Holidays $  
Oct. 26 to Nov. 16, Wed., 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Code: 54783 | Central Library – Cultural Services Studio

Art for Youth

Nov. 17 to Dec. 15, Wed., 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Code: 55985 | Central Library – Cultural Services Studio

Drawing $  
Nov. 28 to Dec. 19, Mon., 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
Code: 55027 | Central Library – Cultural Services Studio

Music Classes

Guitar (Ages 6 to 8) $  
Oct. 29 to Nov. 19, Sat., 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.  
Code: 55855 | Central Library – Cultural Services Studio

Guitar (Ages 8 to 14) $  
Oct. 29 to Nov. 19, Sat., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Code: 55853 | Central Library – Cultural Services Studio

Register at CityOfAurora.PerfectMind.com
A not-so-long time ago, in this very galaxy, right here, a certain sci-fi film rocked the world and changed both cinema and schoolyards forever. The Jedi Handbook is a coming-of-age story about a young boy who survives the universal trials of growing up with a little help from a galaxy far, far away. Join the Aurora Fox Arts Center from Nov. 25 to Dec. 18 to experience the epic adventures of Star Wars anew, through the eyes of two young best friends facing something scarier than Darth Vader and uglier than Jabba the Hut – getting older! Take a trip with the Aurora Fox down memory lane to a time when everything was possible. Even the Force. For more information on show dates and tickets, visit AuroraFoxArtsCenter.org.

Christine Nguyen is an Aurora-based artist born in California. Her cyanotype (solar print) mural exhibitions have been shown nationally and internationally. Last September, Nguyen offered a cyanotype workshop where forty-five participants of all ages learned solar print basics and used their designs to express their perspective of the world.

For her exhibit at Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Nguyen presents photo-based flags highlighting the natural world and celebrating the Aurora community, along with a community-generated cyanotype mural with creations from workshop participants. The Cyanotype flags exhibit is displayed at Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 9898 E. Colfax Ave., through Dec. 31. To learn more, visit AuroraLibrary.org.
Celebrating Community

In celebration of this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month, Aurora Public Library hosted two special community-led exhibits in partnership with Denver Botanic Gardens and the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art (BMoCA). One of the exhibits was the “Calacas Art Exchange Project,” a community art initiative created to bring artists, organizers and community members together to promote and share the rich cultural and artistic traditions of Día de los Muertos.

Between September and October, the libraries hosted seven larger-than-life paper-mâché skull “calacas” hand-painted by talented Latino Colorado artists: Alejandra Huerta, Artmando, Cal Duran, Cindy Loya, Julls Mendoza, Xencs, and UC Sepia Ozjuah. Each skull provided a visual of each artist’s roots and their own interpretation of the ancestral Día de los Muertos celebration.

The library’s partnership with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art brought the unique exhibit “Pride on Your Side” to Aurora Central Library, a collaborative photography exhibit, on display through Dec. 31, that celebrates the diversity of Aurora by uniting the city’s different communities and compiling community-generated perspectives and images.

“Pride on Your Side” is presented by documentary photographer Juan Fuentes, born in Chihuahua, Mexico, based in Denver, whose work tells stories of contemporary America. In August, Fuentes taught two photography workshops where he empowered participants to document their own experiences, which were included in the exhibit.

An opening reception themed “Comunidad/Community,” took place on Oct. 6 at Aurora Central Library to celebrate the rich artistic and cultural contributions of all the artists and community members who made the “Calacas Art Exchange Project” and “Pride on Your Side” possible. The reception included salsa dancing, live music and a taco bar (see cover photos). To stay up to date on cultural events and other library programs, visit AuroraLibrary.org.
While the weather might be changing, that doesn’t stop Aurorans from experiencing free live music and performances at different library locations through December. The last two performances will continue offering complimentary refreshments, children’s activities and information about programs offered by the Library and Cultural Services Department. For more information and to register, visit TinyURL.com/AuroraRhythms.

**Arts & History Worth Discovering**

**LIBRARY AND CULTURAL SERVICES**

**EL JAVI**
The King of Rock Flamenco
Mission Viejo Library, 15324 E. Hampden Circle

**NOV. 15**

**IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE LIVE RADIO SHOW**
Four actors portray 40 roles in this holiday classic with music.
Tallyn’s Reach Library, 23911 E. Arapahoe Road

**DEC. 13**

**AURORA CENTER FOR ACTIVE ADULTS**

**ON AIR**

**LIVE RADIO SHOW**

**ARSENIC & OLD LACE**

FRIDAY, NOV. 18 | 1 to 3 P.M.
$13 | $10 for Residents

Join us if you dare

Registration #: 54607 Call 303.739.7950 to register

**THE JEDI HANDBOOK**

Written by Stephen Massicotte

ON AIR

NOVEMBER 25 – DECEMBER 18

DIRECTION BY GEOFFREY KENT

The Aurora Fox proudly presents