Celebrate Aurora’s Cultures
Have you visited the Central Library in the last few months? If not, you are missing out on a lot more than an excellent collection of books. Aurora Central Library is now home to a vibrant art collection representing highly talented and well-known artists from across the front range.

Aurora Public Library and the Art in Public Places Program presented “An Evening of Colors and Expressions” March 30, at Central Library. As part of that event, Mayor Pro-Tem Curtis Gardner introduced “One Nation” by David Ocelotl Garcia as a new addition to the city’s Art in Public Places Collection. The installation includes a mural, two sculptures and a series of wall medallions encompassing the stairwell between the main and the lower floors of the Central Library. The artist has two murals in Aurora’s public art collection. “Art in Motion” is located on the south-facing façade of the People’s Building (9995 E. Colfax Ave.), and “Vintage Emotions” is situated on the north-facing façade of Vintage Theatre (1468 Dayton St.). Both can be found within the Aurora Cultural Arts District.

Speaking on behalf of the Art in Public Places Commission, Vice Chair Ana Valles commented on how Garcia draws upon his cultural history to connect people, animals and plant life. She also noted that one part of the installation, the agave sculpture, was donated by the artist.

The three other artists celebrated were Bimmer Torres, Amelia Velasco and Thomas Evans, aka Detour. Art by all these artists is displayed through Aurora Central Library. Torres is primarily known for his mural work, including “Coalescence” at the Dayton Street Labor Center. The two Torres’ paintings purchased by Aurora Public Library, “Siuatl” and “Okichtli” celebrate the rich culture of Central America and Mexico through the use of vividly colored attire. “I’m deeply inspired by my indigenous roots that I often portray from cultural artifacts or pre-Hispanic symbolism,” Torres states. “It is subject matter that often reinforces my work.”

Detour is a highly sought muralist, creating large scale murals across the country, including two privately commissioned murals in Aurora. Most recently, he has been involved in creating a sculpture for Denver International Airport. The three works in the Central Library are hand-altered prints from his “Gods of Color” series.

Velasco’s work was recently exhibited at the Aurora History Museum as part of the “Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora’s Mexican Community” exhibit. She is part of a collective of immigrant artists called Tonos Latinos. “The Guys” now hangs on the main floor directly across from the elevator greeting everyone stepping out of the elevator.

The Art in Public Places Program also hosts temporary exhibits through the year at Martin Luther King Jr. and Tallyn’s Reach Libraries. To learn more about the program, visit AuroraGov.org/PublicArt.

ON THE COVER: Neon sign on Colfax Avenue circa 1980s, artist Amelia Velazco at Aurora Central Library, Global Fest participant at the Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn.
Beyond THE STOREFRONT: A JOURNEY THROUGH AURORA’S BUSINESS PAST

For over 130 years, business drove Aurora’s growth from a small Denver suburb to the third-largest city in Colorado. The Aurora History Museum will celebrate our city’s businesses and industries in a new exhibit, “Beyond the Storefront: A Journey Through Aurora’s Business Past,” opening July 11 and closing Nov. 5.

“Businesses often represent the community in which they were established and thrived,” said T. Scott Williams, museum director. “From iconic East Colfax motels to restaurants with food from around the globe on Havana, looking at our city’s businesses is an insight into Aurora as a whole.”

In the 1890s, Aurora’s business district consisted of a few shops near the Colfax Avenue trolley line. As cars replaced the trolley, business owners gained the flexibility to open stores in other areas of the city. By the 1950s, developers began planning large-scale neighborhoods with nearby commercial centers in mind. As Aurora expanded south and east, its businesses shifted to areas like Hoffman Heights, the Aurora Mall, Havana Street and the Southlands Shopping Center.

Aurora is an extremely ethnically diverse city. As some businesses moved to southeast Aurora by the 1970s, new immigrants from around the world opened shops and restaurants in north and west Aurora. Today, the city is flourishing with Asian, Hispanic, African and East European businesses frequented by Aurorans of all nationalities.

This summer, stop by the Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway, and discover old and new businesses that helped shape Aurora’s history.
ONGOING EVENTS

Art Exhibit in collaboration with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art
MLK and Central libraries
Starting in August

Art in Public Places
Works by Calvin Newland
MLK Jr. Library - July
Tallyn’s Reach Library - June and July

Works by Emma Knight and Zachary Davidson
MLK Jr. Library and Tallyn’s Reach Library
August and September

Aurora Dance Arts Announces Upcoming Auditions for “The Nutcracker Ballet”

Aurora Dance Arts is excited to announce auditions for “The Nutcracker Ballet” as they produce this timeless and imaginative story to be danced to life in December. This production will bring together many age groups and levels. It is mostly ballet-based, though there will be a few other specialty dance style opportunities in the production. The Aurora Dance Arts program is excited to return to a more traditional version of this beautiful ballet, but also thrilled about some creative new ideas to freshen up the classic tale and allow for dancers of lots of different levels and styles to participate.

Auditions for “Nutcracker” will take place Aug. 12 and 13 at Expo Recreation Center, 10955 E. Exposition Ave. Rehearsals will also begin in August; performances will happen in December.

Dancers ages 6 to 19 from Aurora Dance Arts and studios throughout the metro area are invited to audition for a role in this unique production. The Aurora Dance Arts Fall Productions are one of the program’s most wonderful opportunities each year and this show promises to bring back time-honored traditions of our program.

Watch for emails and updates to the Aurora Dance Arts website, AuroraGov.org/Dance, in the “Performance Opportunities” section for official audition information and audition packet.
Develop lifelong skills such as listening, self-confidence, reading, memorization and concentration. Students create characters, dialogue, monologues, scenes and performance pieces while learning stage movement and voice from experienced theatre professionals. Perform for family and friends on the final day of class. Consistent attendance is strongly encouraged. All Cultural Services classes require pre-registration.

**Theatre Classes**

*Storybook, Alive! Strega Nona Stories (Ages 4 to 7)*
July 10 to 31, Monday, 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
Code: 63888 | Tallyn’s Reach Library
Bring favorite storybooks to life in this fun theatre class!
Act out a variety of creative stories.

*Storybook, Alive! Best Friends Forever (Ages 4 to 7)*
July 11 to Aug. 1, Tuesday, 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
Code: 63891 | Mission Viejo Library
Bring favorite storybooks to life in this fun theatre class!
Act out a variety of creative stories.

**Summer Camps**

Share a performance with your family on the last day. Requires consistent daily attendance, memorization and outside class work.

*Toy Shoppe (Ages 7 to 10)*
July 10 to 21
Monday to Friday, 1 to 4 p.m.
Code: 62087 | Tallyn’s Reach Library
Devise a script where toys have a life of their own.
Instructor: Joi Hiatt

*School for Dragons (Ages 7 to 10)*
July 10 to 21
Monday to Friday, 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Code: 62089 | Aurora Central Library
Devise a script about a medieval community that raises and trains dragons. Ideally suited for intermediate students.
Instructor: Hugo Jon Sayles

*Dune 2: Battle for the Spice Planet (Ages 11 to 16)*
July 10 to 21
Monday to Friday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Code: 62117 | Aurora Fox Arts Center
Dive into this sweeping science fiction/fantasy/adventure inspired by the book series and adapted especially for this camp.

Theatre Booking Page (CityOfAurora.PerfectMind.com)
Kid’s Education

Morning at the Museum
Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
Spend the morning with your preschooler at the Aurora History Museum for stories, crafts and hands-on activities. New free drop-in program every week. Free; no registration required but adult must be present.

Coal Creek School Days
Fridays, June, July and August, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Coal Creek School Days are back! Beginning June 2, the Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites will open the historic Coal Creek Schoolhouse (on the DeLaney Historic Property) for fun kid-focused programming every Friday. We’ll bring in our friends from the Aurora Public Library, Open Space and Natural Resources and Cultural Arts Education so there’s something new to do each week. Schedule available at AuroraMuseum.org. Free; no registration required.

Historic Sites

Open Days at DeLaney
July 8, 9, 15 and 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Want to learn more about early Aurora and the agricultural roots of our community? This is your chance to see inside Colorado’s only round barn and Aurora’s oldest remaining home. Play pioneer games and enjoy the DeLaney Historic District and open space park. Free; no registration required.

Centennial House Open Days
Saturday, Aug. 5 and 6, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Aurora’s Centennial House was built in 1891 by the founders of Fletcher, the trolley town that became Aurora. Preserved by the city and the Aurora Historical Society in 1991, this Victorian home is an important part of the Original Aurora neighborhood. Due to construction, these are our only Open Days planned at Centennial House this year. Free; no registration required.

Lectures and more

Special hours for Independence Day
Tuesday, July 4, 5 to 8 p.m.
Visit the museum while you wait for fireworks to begin on the Great Lawn. Stop in to check out our exhibits and our special Civic Season offerings.

Personal Collections Workshop at Tallyn’s Reach Library
Sunday, July 9, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Lots of us keep our most prized photographs and letters in a box tucked away somewhere for “safe keeping.” But are they really safe? Come to this workshop and learn to preserve your letters and photos like museums do with Aurora History Museum Collections Curator Lizz Ricci. A workshop to make archival envelopes will follow. Bring in one 4x6 or 5x7 photograph to make an envelope for. Free, register at AuroraMuseum.org.

Teacher Appreciation
Thursday, Aug. 3, 5:30 to 8 p.m.
We want to say thank you to our local teachers with food, games, prizes, goody bags and information about programs for your classrooms. Are you a classroom teacher? Join us to chat with your fellow teachers, Museum representatives and other organizations that offer programming, services and support for teachers. Free for local teachers. Register at AuroraMuseum.org.

Exploring Colfax with Jonny Barber
Friday, Aug. 11, 10 to 11 a.m.
Colfax Avenue might be the most talked about street in Denver, Aurora and the rest of the metro area. Jonny Barber, a Colfax expert, curator of the Colfax Museum, storyteller, musician and local celebrity, will discuss the history, reputation and preservation of this infamous thoroughfare. Free, registration at AuroraMuseum.org.

Speaker Series July 21 to 31:
Our July speaker series highlights the diversity of Aurora through our chefs. With the myriad of cultures in Aurora, we have just about every cuisine within city limits. Chefs who specialize in Ethiopian, Korean barbecue, Venezuelan gastronomy and more will come to the museum to share their experiences. Free event, please register at AuroraMuseum.org.

- **Friday, July 21 at 6:30 p.m.**
  Ethiopian cuisine with Chef Seble from Eatiopia (10th and Havana)

- **Saturday, July 22 at 1 p.m.**
  Asian Fusion with Chef Thoa from Bánh & Butter Bakery (Colfax and Florence)

- **Tuesday, July 25 at 6:30 p.m.**
  Polynesian cuisine with Chef Shauna from No Ke Aloha (Buckley and Kentuckly)

- **Saturday, July 29 at 11 a.m.**
  Korean BBQ with Chefs Ms. Park and Mr. Kim from Shin Myung Gwan (Havana and Yale)

- **Sunday, July 30 at 10 a.m.**
  Venezueal gastronomy with Chef Gastón.

- **Monday, July 31 at 6:30 p.m.**
  Soul Food with Chef Priscilla Smith from Cora Faye’s Café (Colfax and Chambers)
Global Fest offers entertainment for all ages with two stages of musical and dance performances, an international marketplace, art displays, kids’ activities, resources, food vendors and much more! Attendees will also experience a globally inspired fashion show and the exciting Parade of Nations procession with representation from dozens of countries.

Admission to Global Fest is free. Learn more about this wonderful event at AuroraGov.org/GlobalFest. Be sure to follow the city of Aurora’s social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn) for exciting updates!
The Fox Interlude

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The incredible Fox staff has been reimagining how the Aurora Fox Arts Center can better serve patrons and lay the foundation for dynamic new programming options. Because the Aurora Fox is owned and operated by the city of Aurora, the first major decision was to align the season timeline to match the city’s fiscal year. This means our next official season will begin until January 2024.

To accommodate this shift, “The Fox Interlude” was created, a line-up of entertainment playing through December 2023, specifically chosen to invite everybody back to the Fox and have fun!

Tickets to all events listed will be sold individually. “Fox Interlude” events are not part of any season ticket package, except for “Blues in the Night” and “Motones & Jerseys: Holiday Hi-Fi.” Forever Fox FlexPass holders will be able to apply unused passes to these two shows. For questions, please reach out to Aurora Fox staff, who will be happy to assist!

We hope you enjoy “The Interlude!”

Fox Cabaret: Adriane Leigh & Marco Robison | July 29 and 30
Fox Cabaret: Jenna Moll Reyes & John Hauser | Aug. 18 and 19
JUBILATION!: Season 39 Announcement Party and Fundraiser | Sept. 9
Aurora Rhythms: Zodiac Trio | Sept. 12 (Free Event, Reservations Required)
Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra: Latin Jazz feat. The Bronx Horns | Sept. 17
*Aurora Fox Presents: Blues in the Night | Sept. 22 to Oct. 8
The Panto Company USA (Theatre for Young Audiences Tour): Cinderella | Oct. 12, 10 a.m. | Oct. 13, 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Phamaly Theatre Company: Indescribable | Nov. 3 to 5
THE Denver Dolls: Salute to Veterans | Nov. 11 and 12
Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra: A Soulful Christmas with Robert Johnson | Nov. 26
Fox Cabaret: David Nehls’ A Piano and Me Holiday Edition | Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. | Sunday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. | Studio Theater
*Aurora Fox Presents: Motones & Jerseys Holiday Hi-Fi | Dec. 7 to 18
*NYE at the Fox: Shelvis and the Roustabouts | Sunday, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m.

Get your tickets at AuroraFoxArtsCenter.org

The Aurora Fox Cabarets offer a great opportunity to see and support your favorite local stars! Join the Aurora Fox Arts Center for an intimate evening of music and entertainment curated by the artists.

Adriane Leigh & Marco Robinson
“IT’S GOOD TO BE BAD”
Saturday, July 29, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, July 30, 2 p.m. | Studio Theater
All Tickets Are $25 | General Seating