Experience free live music and performances every month, hosted by the city’s Library and Cultural Services Department. The 2023 Aurora Rhythms Concert Series will take place from June to December inside different library locations throughout the city. Vio the Violinist will kick off the Aurora Rhythms 2023 season with an exciting performance at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 20, at Mission Viejo Library, 15324 E. Hampden Circle. Vio, the violinist armed with ambition and natural talent, is self-taught in both hip-hop and dubstep music. He pushes through the boundary of what genres violin belongs to. “Violin is more than just a classical instrument,” Vio said. Attendees will also enjoy an opening performance by Aurora Poet Laureate, Ahja Fox. To learn more about this and other exciting performances, visit AuroraGov.org/Concerts.

**Summer with Aurora Public Library**

Aurora Public Library’s “Summer of Imagination: Shared Stories” kicks off May 31 with a free book to every participant and will run until July 30. “Summer Jams & Storytime” will kick off June 6 at Red-tailed Hawk Park, 23701 E. Hinsdale Way, with live music by Ninety Percent 90s band, storytime from the Bookmobile and a dance performance by Aurora Dance Hearts. The same setting will be offered through Aug. 9. And with 14 participating breweries, Aurora Craft Brews Tour will run from June 15 to Oct. 7. To learn more, visit AuroraLibrary.org.

**TREASURE ISLAND**

A New Musical For A New Generation April 28 to May 21

Excitement runs high in this new musical adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson’s thrilling tale of pirates, treasure maps and mutiny on the seven seas. Join us for a swashbuckling good time that is perfect for the entire family!

**Fox Cabaret**

Adriane Leigh and Marco Robison: July 29 and 30

Jenna Moll Reyes and John Hauser: August 18 and 19

The Aurora Fox Cabaret features a dynamic program in the intimate setting of the Fox’s Studio Theatre, offering a great opportunity to see and support your favorite local stars! Join the Aurora Fox for an intimate evening of music and entertainment curated by the artists themselves.

**JUBILATION! Season Announcement Party and Fundraiser | Sept. 9**

Be part of the Aurora Fox Interlude kick-off and Season 39 announcement party. This event will have it all: food, music and dancing! Attendees will be the first to learn of the Season 39 line-up.

For more information visit AuroraFox.org or call 303.739.1970

**ON THE COVER**

This summer, enjoy a new history museum exhibit about nature, live music, dance and theater, as well as new art at the libraries. Photos of Giraffes and ice cream cones are part of a mixed media exhibit by Sheilah Lowe at Tallyns Reach Library.
EXPLORE “The Great Outdoors of Aurora”

AT THE AURORA HISTORY MUSEUM

The Aurora History Museum and Historic Sites new exhibit, “The Great Outdoors of Aurora,” on display from May 2, 2023, to April 21, 2024, celebrates Aurora’s vibrant outdoor opportunities and dives deep into the history behind the activities residents and visitors love to do in the city. Discover the stories behind reservoirs, city parks, nature centers, the High Line Canal, swimming pools, golf courses and more, all within the city of Aurora.

“Coloradans are some of the most active people in the country, and Aurora offers great opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy our city,” said T. Scott Williams, museum director. “Whether it’s our trail system or Cherry Creek State Park, there is a history behind these places, and we look forward to sharing that with our visitors while encouraging them to get outside and enjoy what our beautiful city has to offer.”

Accompanying the history of Aurora’s outdoor spaces, the exhibit will profile local businesses and organizations supporting recreation. From golf shops, bait and tackle, bike shops and outfitters – many local entrepreneurs cater to the outdoors community. The exhibit will also feature historic recreational equipment, hands-on activities, archival photography and immersive elements that will engage and excite visitors of all ages.

For more information on this and other unique exhibits and events, visit AuroraMuseum.org.

FAREWELL TO A BICENTENNIAL Art Center Icon

Ann Thornton has retired after working for the city of Aurora for over 25 years with Library and Cultural Services. In 2004, she was hired as the Visual Art Program Assistant, programming all the art and music classes for the city of Aurora. In 2008 Ann reduced her work hours but remained on at Bicentennial Art Center to assist countless customers, students, instructors and staff with registration, purchases and wisecracks. Ann covered staff illnesses, departures and absences and could always be counted on. She continued to be committed to the city of Aurora, the department and especially the Bicentennial Art Center through the pandemic and continued to work for us until January of this year.

Ann’s pottery was always intricately detailed, especially her hand-built forms. Most recently, Ann has focused her attention on fused glass making, learning complicated techniques, and selling her work on Etsy and at local art and craft fairs. Learn more about Ann’s artwork at SimplyFused4U.
MAY

2
Great Outdoors of Aurora opening day
Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
AuroraMuseum.org

7
Opening Field Day - Great Outdoors of Aurora
Sunday, May 7, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway
AuroraMuseum.org

12 to 13
Aurora Potter’s Guild Spring Sale 2023
Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Community College of Aurora CentreTech Campus

13
Colfax Art Jams
Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.
Aurora Cultural Arts District, 9800 E. Colfax Ave.
AuroraCulture.org

14
Chalk Lines and Vines
Sunday, May 14
Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Event Center, 25690 E. Quincy Ave.
Tickets: ArapahoeCountyEventCenter.com

JUNE

2
Summer Reading Kick-off Celebration
Friday, 4 to 6 p.m.
Fletcher Plaza and Martin Luther King Jr. Library
AuroraLibrary.org

3
Summer Reading Kick-off Celebration
Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m.
Aurora Municipal Center Lawn
and Aurora Central Library
AuroraLibrary.org

3 and 4
2023 Arts for a Better Tomorrow
Saturday, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m.
Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave.
Tickets: AuroraSymphony.org

6
Summer Jams & Storytime
Music by Ninety Percent 90s band, storytime with the Bookmobile, dance by Aurora Dance Arts
Tuesday, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Red-tailed Hawk park, 23701 E. Hinsdale Way

10
Colfax Art Jams
Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.
Aurora Cultural Arts District, 9800 E. Colfax Ave.
AuroraCulture.org

15
Your Story Workshop
Thursday, 4:30 p.m. | Tallyn’s Reach Library
Registration: AuroraMuseum.org

18
2023 Chamber Music Concert
Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m.
Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave.
Tickets: AuroraSymphony.org

20
Aurora Rhythms 2023: Vio the Violinist
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Mission Viejo Library
AuroraLibrary.org

21
Summer Jams & Storytime Music by Kalama
Storytime with the Bookmobile and dance by Aurora Dance Arts
Wednesday, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Del Mark Park, 1200 E. 6th Ave.
ONGOING PROGRAMS

Aurora Dance Arts Recitals

“A Night at the Movies” $3
June 9, Friday, 7 p.m.
Vista Peak Preparatory School
Tickets: AuroraGov.org/Dance

“A Night at the Movies” $3
June 10, Saturday, 2:30 p.m.
Vista Peak Preparatory School
Tickets: AuroraGov.org/Dance

“Marvelous Mother Goose & Other Stories” $3
June 10, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Vista Peak Preparatory School
Tickets: AuroraGov.org/Dance

Art in Public Places

May
Works By Sheilah Lowe
MLK Jr. and Tallyn’s Reach Library

June
Works by Calvin Newland
MLK Jr. Library

SUMMER THEATRE CAMPS AND CLASSES 2023

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. For questions, email lmumpton@auroragov.org.

Theatre Classes

Storybook, Alive! Strega Nona Stories (Ages 4 to 7) $3
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 based on the popular book series.

Storybook, Alive! Best Friends (Ages 4 to 7) $3
June 6 to 27, Tuesday, 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
Code: 63889 | Mission Viejo Library
Bring favorite storybooks to life in this fun theatre class! Act out a variety of creative stories.

Auditions (Ages 7 to 16) $3
June 17 to July 29 (skip July 1),
Saturday, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Code: 64187 | Aurora Central Library
Prepare for school auditions this fall. Learn audition techniques including cold readings, selecting a monologue, memorization, character development, emotion, voice, movement, how to dress and how to calm your nerves.

Summer Camps

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

Sideways Stories from Wayside School (Ages 7 to 10) $3
June 12 to 23 (skip June 19),
Monday to Friday, 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Code: 62088 | Aurora Central Library
Perform a play based on the beloved book series about the adventures of the students in this mysterious and whacky school.

The Hobbit (Ages 11 to 16) $3
June 12 to 23 (skip June 19),
Monday to Friday, 1:30 to 5 p.m.
Code: 62110 | Aurora Fox Art Center
Perform a play inspired by the classic adventure fantasy novel.
Kids and Family Programs

Morning at the Museum (Ages 3 to 6)
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
This weekly drop-in program includes stories, crafts and hands-on activities. Children must be supervised by an adult. No registration required.

Opening Field Day - Great Outdoors of Aurora
Sunday, May 7, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Join us for fun field day activities and old-fashioned games and get a sneak preview of our newest exhibition. You might even find a new favorite hobby. Registration required.

Homeschool Day at AHM $
Thursday, May 11, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Last event of the year. Join us at the Delaney Historic District to learn about the archaeology, digs and ethics of the field. An adult must be present.

Summer Camps $
The Aurora History Museum is offering two week-long camps with different themes for children ages 7 to 13. Monday to Friday | 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Registration required.
  • Aurora in a Week History Camp
    June 12 to 16
    Students will learn about Aurora’s history, make crafts, play games and visit a historic homestead.
  • Game Design Steam Camp
    June 26 to 30
    Learn the theory and process of game design and build your own resource management game to play with friends and family.

Coal Creek School Days are back!
Every Friday, 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Beginning June 2 AHM and Historic Sites will open the historic Coal Creek Schoolhouse for fun kid-focused programming every Friday with something new each week. No registration required.

Historic Sites

Birding Walk; Global Big Day
May 14, 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day at Delaney Historic District with bird watching an international count of birds. Presented in partnership with the High Line Canal Conservancy and the Audubon Society. Free event; registration required.

Strange Natures Immersive Dance - Control Group Productions $
May 18 to June 4, Thursday to Sunday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Delaney Historic District
An immersive dance show exploring how the natural is unnatural and how to find joy and pleasure in a decaying world. Control Group tickets required.

Extended tour of Delaney Historic property
June 10, Saturday, 9 to 11 a.m.
Learn more about early agriculture and water use in Aurora. Experts will lead a mile-and-a-half walking tour focusing on historical water use, agriculture and nature. Reserve your spot.

Museum Events

Lowry: Then and Now, Lecture with Chuck Stout
May 22, Monday, 1 to 2 p.m.
Wings Over the Rockies Curator, Chuck Stout returns with a new talk about the history of Lowry and the artifacts he works with.

What is “Civic Season”?
Between Flag Day and Fourth of July we will participate in Civic Season, a three-week event to mobilize us all to connect with our past, take action in the present and shape the future. Vote on museum exhibitions, discuss the role of citizens, government, democracy and civic institutions and participate in special programming.

Your Story workshop at Tallyn’s Reach Library
June 15, Thursday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
How do you fit into Aurora? How will your story shape history? This workshop exploring our community and our own places in it is open to all who want to engage with history and community.

Legendary Ladies Presentation $
June 17, Saturday, 4 p.m.
The costumed performers and researchers of the Legendary Ladies portray influential women from history. AHM is hosting Emily Griffith, Anne Evans, Mary Elitch Long, and author of “America the Beautiful,” Kathrine Bates. $4 per person, light refreshment included.

For schedules, registration, tickets and for more information, visit AuroraMuseum.org
It’s almost recital time for our dancers! Recitals are the culmination of nine months of hard work in dance classes and a chance to shine under the bright stage lights as they perform for family and friends! Dance is a performing art, and recitals highlight our dancer’s experiences in this wonderful program.

- **Vista Peak Preparatory School, 24500 E. 6th Ave. | Tickets go on sale May 1.**
- **A Night at the Movies (ages 7 to 19) | Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10, 7 p.m.**
- **Marvelous Mother Goose and Other Stories | (ages 3 to 7) | Saturday, June 10, 2:30 p.m.**

### Summer Dance Program

Aurora Dance Arts is happy to announce the return of our sensational Summer Dance Program. Summer is a time of rest and rejuvenation, but dance students are highly encouraged to continue their dance training as well, to be ready to blast off into next year’s Continuous Program with tons of passion and prowess. Summer is also a great time for anyone to try dance classes, especially those who are new to the art form.

**Dance classes for children, youth and adults**

Classes run from the end of June through early August in 6 to 7 week sessions. Our classes include a large variety of styles and levels. Most classes will be held at Meadowood, Expo and Central recreation centers.

**Master classes offered on select Friday evenings, June to August**

**Sample the Styles Camp** | Beginning level

**Push** | Dance intensive. Intermediate to advanced level
“COLORS” by Susan Cooper, was initially installed in 2005. Composed of seven backlit panels addressing art forms that might be experienced in the arts district, the artwork was partially destroyed in a car accident in October of 2021. Part of the exterior wall and three of the seven panels were destroyed. The entire artwork will be completely remade using upgraded contemporary materials, some design changes and lighting technology.

“STARCHILD” was created by Jonathan Lamb in 2015 and was inspired by a poem by Aurora’s first poet laureate Jovan Mays. This tall vertical mural runs from the ground to the top of Fletcher Garden Apartments, an Aurora Housing Authority building. A grant for a venting project in the boiler room resulted in some unanticipated consequences for the “Starchild” mural. The artist will be making some modifications to the lower section of the mural to relocate the child above the venting elements.

“UPTOWN: A PLACE FOR ART & COMMUNITY” is a mural comprised of several independent components. The pieces reside on the exterior walls of Downtown Aurora Visual Arts, as it was created by a group of DAVA students under the leadership of Jason Needham in 2007. One of these panels was damaged and will be removed for repairs.

The restoration of “GHOST TROLLEY” continues. Once the exterior coating was removed, it revealed that the impact of rocks thrown up by passing vehicles, as well as sun, wind, and temperature changes, had caused cracking to the underlying artwork. Care is being taken to properly fill the cracks and resurface the artwork. Then the surface coating will be replaced, the lighting will be replaced and the artwork will be reinstalled.

HELP SHAPE PUBLIC ART IN AURORA

Help us plan the future directions of public art in Aurora! The Art in Public Places Commission is engaged in a master planning process, and they want to hear from you. A survey is available through EngageAurora.org and takes about 10 minutes to complete. Your responses will not be associated with your email address. The survey will be up through May, so don’t delay. And, if you would prefer a hard copy survey, they are available at all Aurora Public Library branches.