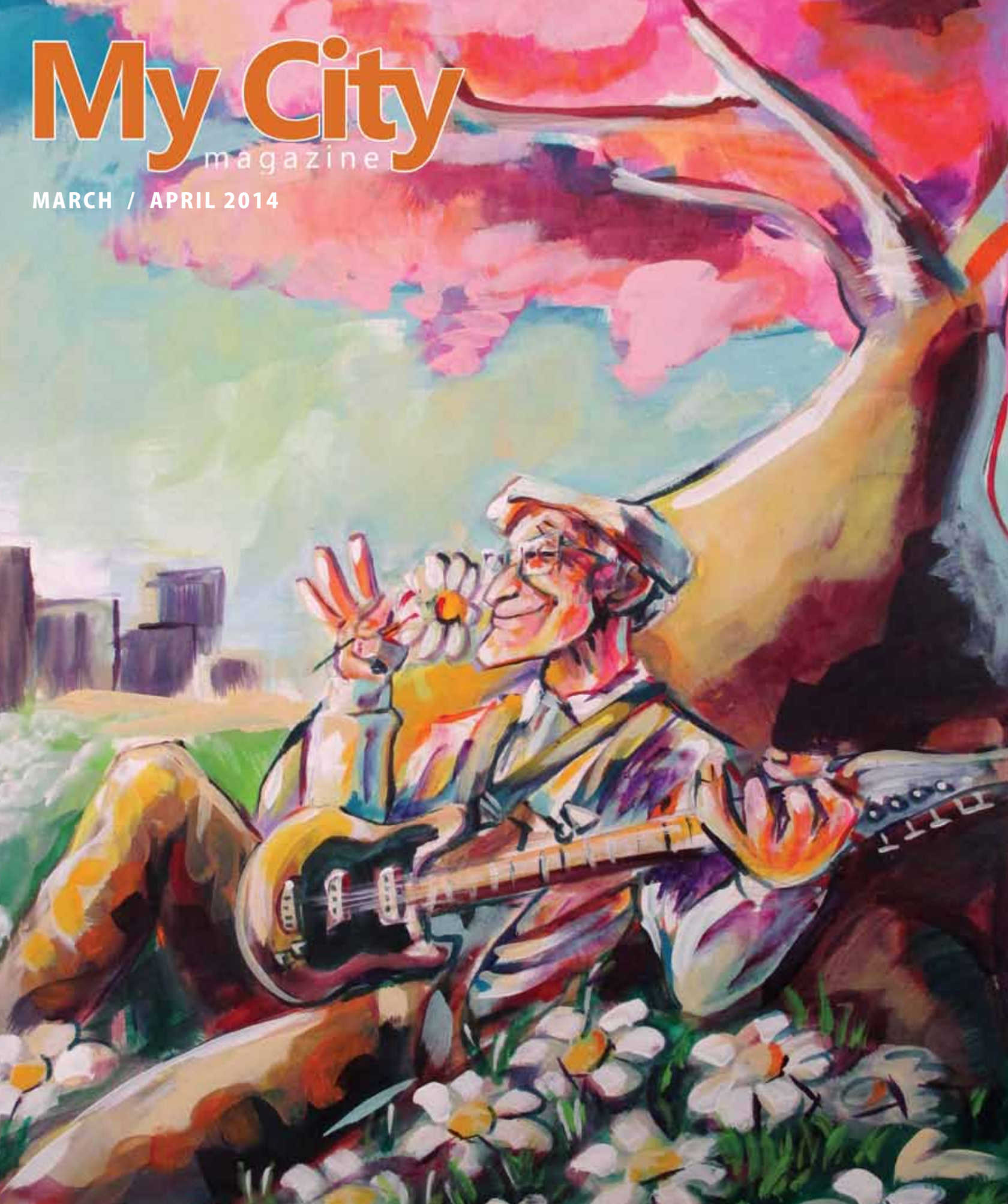


My City

magazine

MARCH / APRIL 2014



News • Reviews • Interviews • Viewpoints

Letter from the Editor

March / April 2014

Hi Charlotte,

Spring is here. This is a time of new beginnings. Birds are mating. Flowers are blooming. Smile and enjoy each gift that is being presented to you. Oh and enjoy a show, a festival, a museum or a concert; see our event listing. Thank you (always), Charlotte and surround, for the warm reception you've given My City Magazine as we proudly bring you our fifth printed issue.

Enjoy today and every day,

Ellen Gurley and the other My City Magazine personalities

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Cover illustration by John Hairston, Jr. Hire him for your next commission or event (he does live art):

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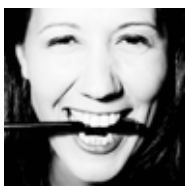
All staff headshots were taken by Austin Caine. Hire him for your next event:

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Contributors



John Hairston, Jr., Cover Illustrator - John Hairston, Jr. has been an artist for as long as he can remember. A North Carolina native, he created art before he could read or write. Throughout his grade school years, he spent the majority of his time drawing superheroes and listening to any old soul or hip hop records he could get his hands on. Little did he know that his love for all things spandex-clad and funky would play such a major role in his development as an artist. Under the guidance of his high school mentors and college professors, he learned to tap into these components to create a style of artwork that seamlessly blends political satire, social commentary and obscure pop-culture references. Hairston graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration and began his career as a professional artist illustrating storyboards for a string of independent films and several television ads. He has done commissioned pieces for numerous art collectors and various non-profit organizations. Hairston's work is currently on display in various art galleries all over the East Coast and Charlotte, NC.

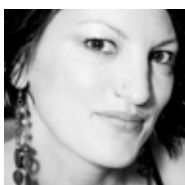


Ellen Gurley, Columnist/Sales/Owner/Editor - Ellen Gurley has been in media for over fifteen years. She has sold print and radio and has been published in Charlotte (AMPS 11, Charlotte Mix, Q Zine, Elevate, TRIP, Live Wire, Genesis, Thrift, LNMental Aesthetics, Creative Loafing, Coatcheck, Banktown USA), Sweden (Pitch Adjust) and the UK (ATM & DOA). She brings to the table a relationship-based approach with both clients and team members.

A dedication to all things local and better choices for entertainment have brought this poet, artist and DJ and her brain child to the market, My City Magazine, with a crew of amazing peers, all experts in their field. Enthusiastic is an understatement when describing this woman.



Austin Caine, Photographer - Austin Caine has been capturing souls for well over ten years, with a passion for photography that consistently drives him to outshine his own work. From his humble beginnings as "that annoying guy always taking pictures" at his friends' parties to a respected artist working with numerous talents within the entertainment and fashion industries. There's no telling where his incredible photographic journey will land him next. He enjoys being immersed in the moment and has developed a keen eye for freezing those intense fleeting images that define our most memorable experiences. The most important thing to remember about Austin is that he is a perfectionist and (should you have the chance to grace his lens) he will make certain you absolutely love the photo before he'll let you out of his sights.



Mandi English, Columnist - Mandi is a salon owner, hair stylist and make-up artist with twenty years of experience working in the fashion print, wedding and beauty education industry. Her personal passion lies in a mindful movement towards achieving a healthy and balanced life. Mandi's not an easy gal to keep up with. On any given week, you will find her making over clients at her salon in Plaza-Midwood, styling models in Carolina Place Studio for Belk ecommerce and other freelance beauty opportunities, making brides more beautiful, throwing events with other local businesses, working at her kids' school, gardening at her Country Club Heights home, doing yoga at one of her frequent haunts, making dinner with veggies from said garden for said kids, crafting jewelry and fashions from cool finds and generally wishing there were a few more hours added to the day for more fun projects. Bottom-line, this lady is all about living well, treating the body and the planet right and looking your best while doing it.



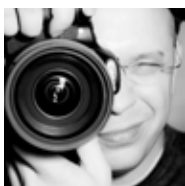
Scott Collins, Columnist - Upbeat and witty, Scott (a financial advisor) is a guy you want to hang out with - be it over a martini discussing Erté or at a Jazz bar with a glass of cabernet he is just as comfortable in a dive club with some local talent poppin' PBR tall boys. An accomplished drummer (Labrats, Scuttlebutt) his hobbies include reading, cooking, billards, golf and gym time. After music store management and lessons he honed his people skills with nine years of on-the-road industrial sales followed by nine years of automotive sales. His passion, finally realized, he now helps people (young and old) to plan for life's financial events. You can find him at Freedom Park each year with his son's team in the "Energy for Life" walk (for those with mitochondrial disorders). Married with two children he is known as the "cool dad". His personal creed is "I do what I want".



Shane Elks, Columnist - Shane Elks may just be a real life "Mad Hatter!" Wearing many different hats from singer, actor, promoter and performance artist to husband, activist, stepfather and glitter enthusiast; Mr. Elks is an eclectic personality to say the least. Shane studied Musical Theater in NYC and has since performed on the stages of major festivals, theaters and the underground art scene. Also known as the cabaret persona Mr. Red, Shane enjoys mixing the worlds of classic performance with contemporary avant garde styling. Shane also shares his passion of art and activism with his husband Bryan. Together they are involved in numerous charities and organizations supporting the likes of Human Rights, Alzheimer's, Community Theater, HIV/ AIDS Awareness, Animal Rescue and so forth. Shane's favorite word? SPARKLE!

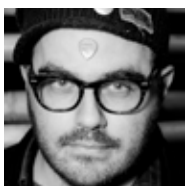


Alex Barnette, Webmaster - Alex Barnette loves selling things online, print work, small business, clean websites and consulting with new and existing companies on the business process. He spends his time 'tweaking' bleepy noises on his computer, brushing-up beautiful images, and 'raging' at the "DJ show" (where he performs sporadically around Charlotte).



Grant Baldwin, Photojournalist - Grant Baldwin is a freelance photojournalist based out of Charlotte, NC. He has an Associates Degree in General Education (Conc. in Photography) from Central Piedmont Community College and has been an active photographer refining his work for more than a decade. His focus is Documentary and Journalistic work, as he excels at perceiving the complexities of a fluid situation allowing him to use observation, past experience and intuition to anticipate and capture the core moments of an event. All while striving towards the goal of conveying the full meaning and significance of each moment with personal neutrality.

Contributors



Michael K Earle, Columnist - Michael K Earle has been stuck on music since about the age of 3, maybe 4, when his dad showed him a bootlegged-from-HBO copy of the Buddy Holly Story. Throughout his elementary and secondary education, he'd earn extra money by copying his father's record collection from album to tape; a dollar an album. This was how he got early exposure to Blue Cheer, the Beatles, the Ohio Players, Klaatu and, especially, the Doors. From such a weird record collection, a weird music fanatic was formed. He began playing music in third grade and has played piano, saxophone, trombone, trumpet, bass guitar and guitar guitar over the years. In Charlotte's music scene, he has been a member of bands like Horse Thief, the Poontanglers, Hoodsake and Secret Hospital. He's here to write about music in the Queen City out of as much a sense of duty to the local musicians as his love of the music being made here. Frustrated with a lack of dedicated coverage to "the small bands" (or at least the ones with no press kits or managers), he offered his services to My City Magazine and for some reason, they said yes.



Liz Eagle, Columnist/Sales - As an NC native, Liz Eagle is an enthusiast of all things Charlotte. This includes, but is not limited to: local beer, neighborhood associations, the uptown vs. downtown quandary, greenways, hating University, Jack Beagles, mothers who think they should be in the pilot episode of "Real Housewives of Mecklenburg County", art markets, alley shows at Common Market, and an endless supply of free events to attend.

Being momma bear to two lively little ones, president of an unassuming neighborhood and tender of a lively local bar, have lead Liz to love and thrive in this city, hoping to leave it better than she found it and to find humor in all of Charlotte's nuances.



James Lee Walker II, Columnist - James is a guy who always wanted to see what corporate America was like, got that, lost it, and all he had left were the things he actually cared about, which were acting and singing. So paying the bills stayed, after that, a true labor of love. He still labors and loves. He is a self proclaimed Urban Zentertainer, whose job is to be as James as possible and hope people gain something from him as he gains all that he is from other people and his environment. James has worked with every local theater in Charlotte been nominated for multiple Metrolina Theater Awards. He has been called, by a few theater critics, "Charlotte's go-to hood". As he points out as often as he can, he is merely a product of what is presented to him.



Brandon Lunsford, Columnist - Brandon Lunsford is a local history nerd. In 2008 he wrote Charlotte Then and Now, which compared historic photographs of the city to the current locations. A new revised edition came out this year. Brandon got his BA in History and his MA in Public History from UNCC and did several internships with the Charlotte Mecklenburg Historic Landmark Commission and the Charlotte Museum of History. He has been the archivist at Johnson C. Smith University since 2009 and spends a lot of his time trying to convince people that Charlotte isn't just a stale banking town that wants to destroy all of its own history. There was and is some cool stuff around here and he intends for people to know about it. Brandon's Then and Now column will focus on the history of the city's neighborhoods, institutions, and people and how far they've come (or not). Not content with being a mere history nerd, in his spare time Brandon explores the depths of nerdiness in the realms of music, comics, and horror movies. He seems to think he's really cool because he wrote a book, which probably isn't true.

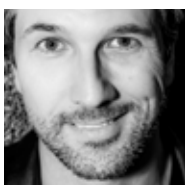


Bill "The Thrill" Cleveland, Columnist/Sales - In no particular order, here are things one may consider pertinent information when getting to know this writer: Bill is the boogieman to bummers. Born and raised in CrownTown, but has spent several years living.slash.adventuring all over the planet (spoiler alert: Charlotte is truly a top-shelf burg), Bill is a jack-of-all-trades and a master of fun. He can speak as eloquently as is required by social context, he just doesn't want to most times. "Hearts n farts" is a life motto and he is (very much so) a fan of quoting gnarly people that say gnarly things.

"You must be shapeless, formless like water. When you pour water into a bottle, it becomes the bottle. When you put water into a cup, it becomes the cup. Water can flow and water can crash. You must be formless, shapeless like water, my friend." -Bruce Lee



Kat Sweet, Designer - There's hardly a moment that goes by that Kat Sweet isn't involved in some form of art. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting, but spends most of her time coding websites and creating ads for print. She's been sewing and crafting since she was old enough to hold a glue gun, and baking casseroles holds a special place in her heart. Kat is also a single mother of a fantastic little lady who is her best friend and awesome sidekick. When she's not stuck in front of a computer or hunched over an art project, you can find her riding bicycles around town with her club, RTA.



Lane Lovegrove, Photojournalist - Lane Lovegrove is a freelance photographer and writer with a background in academics, political science and journalism. A native South Carolinian, Lovegrove grew up with family all through North Carolina spending summer and Christmas vacations there every year, so his love of the 'Tarheel State' is genuine. He specializes in live music and special interest photojournalism. He has a rescue Labrador named Jasmine and can be found most nights at Snug Harbor, the Tremont Music Hall, or the World Famous Milestone with his camera in hand and a smile for his friends. When he isn't busy writing he is a part time actor picking up background roles on Homeland, Banshee and the CBS series Reckless.



Erin Tracy-Blackwood, Columnist - Erin Tracy-Blackwood is a hip-hop aficionado whose encyclopedic knowledge of the genre sometimes crosses over into super-nerd territory. When she realized at a young age she'd never rap as good as Nas, she vowed never to touch a microphone. Instead, she threw her energy into serving the hip-hop community by promoting artists, shows, events and the culture in general. She has been a Queen City hip-hop fixture since the Fat City era, and if you know what that means, you probably already know her. Erin is also a mother, wife and corporate marketing consultant in her spare time. She originally hails from Jacksonville, FL, but moved to Charlotte around the same time she entered the "36 Chambers".

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Liz Gray

by Ellen Gurley



Concord has had amazing paintings on buildings and public art just as long as Charlotte. They can keep up with us in the big city. Liz Gray has made sure of that with over twenty murals on the sides of buildings brightening up her community. When I first heard about Liz, I had to meet her. I got a tour of the murals she has done. I learned that many of the buildings with commissioned work are owned by the Troutman family or some of the Hispanic business owners in Gibson Village (which is where it all began). My favourite was a Frida piece at Lupita's (in the heart of it all).

Liz lives in her great grandparent's home; just blocks away from downtown Concord and the neighbouring streets and communities that have so warmly received her art and smile. She says she learned a lot from her grandmother who taught her to take care of herself and her family. This motivated Liz to take over thirty clients in the area and to handle their social media. She pays the bills by and with her roots planted in this area. She wants to be remembered as someone who helped her community, brought traffic to the area and improved business. She doesn't just paint and restore old buildings. She improves lives.

If you wanted to take the same tour that I did

there is a mural along the side of the Kimbrell's furniture store (this is of the Troutman ancestors), two on Cabarrus Ave. (McFerson's and Lupita's), and on Kerr Street there are three on the corner of Kerr and Cedar, four on the corner of Academy and Kerr and four on the corner of McGill and Kerr. Some buildings that have hired her have all four sides done. Some she has done as collaborations with other artists. Others were assisted by classes that were done through Rowan Community College.





Next up is a mosaic. This is different from anything she's ever done but she's dying to take a stab at it. I think testing herself was another thing she got from grandma. The mosaic will be three hundred and fifty feet long and five feet high (which is a whole block). Another upcoming mural will be on the greenway in Gibson Village. And yet another will be in Six Sigma, a global consulting group who is moving into a building owned by the Troutmans in Concord. They have commissioned a large inside mural that will be fully visible from the road; all glass fronts.

Another thing in her genes is activism. Single mother of two half Costa Riccan boys (five and nine), painter and social media whiz, Liz has still found time to volunteer at Planned Parenthood for over fifteen years. She has always been into human rights and local sustainability. While she loves her community, once her kids are grown, she may one day live in South Africa; as her dream is global humanitarian work.

This girl is full of passion. She is fun. She is real. And she is cute. Cute enough to have been a Vavoom 2010 pin-up calendar model and to get hired frequently for other gigs in that arena. Liz was also photographed as a part of the www.InsideOutProject.net/11M project, which is a national initiative that the Latin American Coalition brought to Charlotte (with partners) to illustrate that we are all immigrants or descendants thereof. You can see these pictures (the Wall of Poems) on the www.NeighborhoodTheatre.com building and on the William Treloar House (a historical home of an English import) at the corner of 7th and Brevard.

Keep an eye out for Liz. But if you don't, My City will keep you abreast.

www.Facebook.com/GrayInnovations

(Photos by Mike Dickerson with Six Cents Photography)



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Nathan Smith of RAIN

Interview by Shane Elks



One of the most prominent non-profit organizations that directly affects our community is RAIN (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network). RAIN leads AIDS Walk Charlotte and helps those in Charlotte living with HIV and AIDS. The Director of Development and Marketing is Nathan Smith. Nathan took time from his busy schedule to update us on the workings of RAIN.

How long have you been with RAIN?

On January 20th it will be nine years. What can I say? I'm a sticker.

What is the most amazing moment you have experienced while working for this organization?

This is a tough one to answer as there have been so many amazing moments in my time here. One moment that sticks out is from our youth program EPY (Empowering Positive Youth) and a project they did in one of their support groups. This program serves youth and young adults ages twelve to twenty five who are living with HIV and have support group meetings three times a month. During one of the groups meetings they were given a sheet of questions they needed to answer. Questions on the sheet included the age they found out they were positive, the age they first fell in love, the age they knew someone died and even extremely tough and personal

questions like being raped or molested. The purpose was for all them to share their story illustrating that they had a lot more in common than they have previously thought. Watching the realization hit home that they weren't alone (at all) is quite memorable.

How much has the AIDS WALK grown over the years?

AIDS WALK Charlotte started seeing growth around 2004 and that growth kept going until about 2009 when, like many nonprofits, the economy came into play and not only affected the money we were raising but also the participants. Before the bubble popped we were raising well over \$200,000. We are excited that in 2012 we saw a large jump in people signing up and attending and in 2013 we came extremely close to our financial goal; which hasn't happen for several years (our goal was to gross \$150,000 and we brought in a little over \$147,000). We still have some ways to go to bring it back to what it used to be financially but we have an amazing and dedicated leadership committee that is working hard to make those marks.

What direct impact does the walk have on our community?

Of course one of the major impacts the walk has is that every dollar (100%) raised stays right here in Charlotte. Every dollar goes back to RAIN and the programs and services that are available to the community. There are many events that are similar to AIDS WALK Charlotte but our event is homegrown, we are local and that's where the money stays. Another impact is the visual representation it has to those participating, those donating and those watching. We are the largest AIDS awareness and fundraising event in the Carolinas. It is great to be able to say that we have between 2,000 and 2,500 participants annually. Knowing other similar events have tens of thousands tells us that we still have a long way to go to break the stigma that is associated with HIV and AIDS... even after 30+ years.

Do you find more people speaking out about HIV and AIDS these days?

Yes and no. Since I am directly involved I probably hear more talk but in general (as a community) I think we still have work to do. It's a hard "subject" to discuss because we are usually talking about sex and for a lot of people, understandably, it's a personal thing. What we need to get over is the fear of getting tested and knowing your status. Knowing your status is the first step.

Do you feel Charlotte as a whole helps their

community?

I do believe that Charlotteans do help our community. With so many different opportunities out there for them to get involved in it's easy for them to find their personal passion and make a true difference.

When did your headquarters move? Why?

RAIN officially got a new street address on September 1, 2013 and could not be happier with the decision and the move. We were at First United Methodist Church since 1997 and though it was extremely hard to say goodbye we knew that for our agency to grow and move into the next level of care this change needed to happen. We made the strategic move to Children & Family Services Center on 5th Street in uptown Charlotte to better serve our community. CFSC offers a central, easily accessible location and contains technological systems to enable RAIN to realize greater operational efficiencies. We are already working with organizations co-located at CFSC to build new models of service.

Excellent. What would you like to see change for the future of RAIN?

I would love to see a more financially stable future for RAIN. I'd also like to see the next generation of leaders taking on a more active role with us.

Do you feel that the growth of Charlotte helps with the growth of support for non-profit organizations?

Yes, when there is growth then that means more people and more people have philanthropic passions and causes they believe in so that means not only financial support from these individuals but also donation of their time and talents.

What is something you feel people are not aware of dealing with RAIN?

I think there are several things. For example, some people don't even know what the acronyms mean any more (Regional AIDS Interfaith Network). For me I think the thing that sticks out the most is the "language" people use when talking about HIV and AIDS. People need to realize that no one dies from AIDS; they die from an AIDS related illness. Also, we aren't helping and serving an AIDS victim or an HIV patient. We are helping those persons living with HIV. You wouldn't say someone who has diabetes that they are a diabetes victim as it's about respect.

- Donate to RAIN, be a sponsor or hold your own fundraiser: www.CarolinaRAIN.org/Ways2Give
- Volunteer: a.holmes@CarolinaRAIN.org
- RAIN's www.SweetToothFestival.com is on Sun., March 23rd 2014 @ the Omni Hotel
- RAIN's Amazing Race Bar Crawl is Sat., Apr. 19th 2014 www.BarsAgainstAIDS.org
- AIDS Walk Charlotte 2014 is on Sat., May 3rd at Gateway Village Promenade (800 W.Trade St) at 8am.

www.CarolinaRain.org

(Photos by Ellen Gurley)



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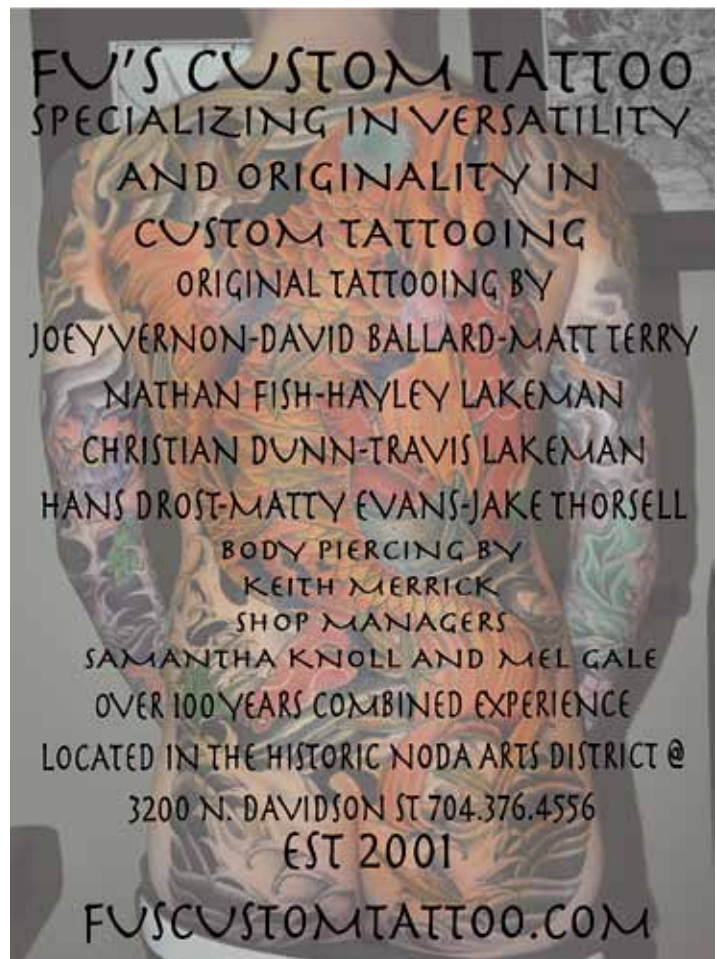
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Put Your Tax Refund to Work

from Scott Collins

It may not be all that much fun to file your taxes, but, while you're working on them, you do get to eagerly anticipate that one big question: Will I or won't I get a tax refund? If you receive a refund, you'll have to answer another question: What should I do with it?

Your answer may depend, at least in part, on the size of your refund. In 2013, the average federal tax refund was about \$2,650. Of course, your refund may be less than this amount (although it could also be more), but if you were to receive a \$2,650 refund this year, what would you do with it?

For one thing, you could put the money into an IRA. In 2014, you can put in up to \$5,500 in a traditional or Roth IRA, so your \$2,650 would represent nearly half your total yearly contribution. (If you're 50 or older, you can put in up to another \$1,000, for a total limit of \$6,500.) But even if you only put in that \$2,650, and you left it alone, it could grow significantly. In fact, after 30 years, your \$2,650 would have grown to more than \$20,000, assuming no further contributions and a hypothetical 7% annual return. And if you were able to put in that same \$2,650 every single year for 30 years, again earning the same hypothetical 7% annual return, you would end up with almost \$268,000.* Keep in mind, though, that you will eventually be taxed on your traditional IRA earnings. Earnings in a Roth IRA can be withdrawn tax free, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you're 59½ and you've had your account at least five years. While funding your IRA certainly can be beneficial, it's not the only choice you have for making good use of your tax refund. Here are a few other possibilities:

- Pay off some debts. If you have a large tax refund, you could use the money to retire some debts, or at least cut them down to a more manageable size. And the lower your debt load, the more money you will have available to invest for your future.
- Help build an emergency fund. It's a good idea to build an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a low-risk, liquid account. Without such a fund, you may be forced to dip into your long-term investments to pay for short-term needs, such as a new furnace, a major car repair or a sizable medical bill. Consequently, you may want to put some, or all, of your tax refund into such a fund.
- Invest in a college savings vehicle. You could use your tax refund to invest in a college savings vehicle, such as a 529 plan. With this plan, your earnings grow tax free, provided all withdrawals are used for higher education expenses. (Keep in mind, though, that 529

plan distributions not used for qualified expenses may be subject to federal and state income tax and a 10% IRS penalty.)

As you can see, you've got some good choices for using your tax refund wisely. Consider them carefully, and make the moves that work best for you.

* Example is for illustrative purposes and does not reflect the performance of any specific investment. Illustration does not include charges and fees that could have a negative effect on the performance.

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Allison Modafferi Brewster

by Mandi English



Upon hearing the phrase “jack of all trades”, I immediately think of Allison Modafferri Brewster with whom I had the pleasure of meeting many years ago. As is common, I met her through mutual friends. She was tickling the ivory and signing in a band with two other Charlotteans known as Volatile Baby. The other members, Brenda Gambill and Gina Stewart, are very dear to me. Together they had a beautiful sound and had a moving harmony that I felt was reminiscent of the 10,000 Maniacs or Fleetwood Mac. That outfit no longer performs together but Allison is still in the studio teaching voice training and piano. Music has always been a love of hers and she is actively sharing this heart-stirring gift to a new generation.

Her other passion is yoga. Upon finishing her first yoga class in 2001, she felt a (full) inch taller and knew she had stumbled upon a wonderful life path which immediately led her to a strong desire to be instrumental in other people experiencing this phenomena. Following this dream just two years later she gained her teaching certification and her first group of young, eager yogis. She partnered with the Lark and Key, the YWCA and Sangati and has now found her home as a teacher and the studio director at Be Yoga. She draws inspiration from Vinyasa Yoga, Acro-Yoga and aerial silks and through her project “Heart of the Matter”, she teaches custom private sessions addressing the pupil’s needs for training, cleansing or healing.



Alongside husband Grey, Allison has begun to host retreats in the NC mountains. These three day, intense yoga workshops focus on learning alignment and breathing and are coupled with kinship, de-stressing and feasting deep in the beautiful, humbling nature of the Bend of Ivy.

In the next few months, she will launch an online intentional living program called “The Art of Being Happy”. This program is rooted in the practices of yoga and incorporates healthy eating. It is designed to improve health and happiness through some simple, daily, sustainable steps. It has been modeled by her own quest for balance and peace which is evident as she states, “Yoga has given me the tools to be happy and to have everything that comes along with that attainment. After years of

holding back due to anxiety and a weighty self-doubt, yoga has given me confidence, freedom and a certain fullness. I continue to cultivate a deeper connection with higher wisdom and through a focused self discipline I have gained a much needed intuitive clarity and a stronger sense of self. My decisions are more fluid, I have more courage and I am more loyal to my commitment of choosing to celebrate this amazing experience of life."

At home with her husband she delights in the creative play of cooking and often brings what she learns to her clients. She is a truly enchanting person. She is talented and an inspiration. Do not miss the chance to practice yoga with her and enjoy her enthusiasm for life. Namaste.

(Photography by Jim McGuire)



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Joey Vernon

Interview by Ellen Gurley



You began tattooing in 1992 and worked with your father until 2001. Those shops were located in Dilworth/Southend area. How did you choose your current location in NoDa?

When I originally opened Fu's, I basically "bailed out" an existing shop that was located uptown at 901-D N. Tryon St. and it was not an ideal location. We did good considering, but I felt the shop and it's artists had more to offer and so we began the search for new location. I happened to come to NoDa one day for lunch, saw a 'for rent' sign and here we are now nearly five years later. It was a good move for the shop, as a whole, given the attitude of the area.

I got my first from you in 1998. Since then you have done over six for me. What percentage of your clients also become return customers?

About 85% of my clients are returning because of the size of work I do on them; most of it is large scale and requires several sessions. The rest is word-of-mouth from existing clients.

First I would like to congratulate you on this day which marks twenty two years of tattooing. Since you have spent more than half of your life tattooing, one can assume that you have spent more time behind a machine than doing (well) anything else. That's a lot of hours tattooing. You know your stuff. How have you seen the tattoo industry change since you began?

The caliber of artist has improved a great deal over the years, but at the same time it has become a very over-saturated market. Tattooing used to be an elusive and risky business to get into and not so easy to obtain your goals. I feel like it's taken a lot of steps forward, however that comes with a price. Basically anyone can get their hands on a machine and be blasting their friends at the kitchen table. It makes it even more complicated when one of these idiots makes it into a shop because they do poor quality work and dirt cheap prices. Things like this hurt our industry. They don't move it forward at all. You could look at it from different aspects as in (a) it's more cover-ups for good tattoo artists to do, but at the same time (b) it sours the general public into thinking things like "\$400? This guy over at such and such said he'd do it for \$150." They don't



realize that they are sacrificing getting a good tattoo verses a bad one all because of the price. Just 'cause it's cheap, doesn't make it worth a damn.

You've stated before that you will tattoo spiritual pieces on clients but not religious as you can't take a stab at something you can't wrap your mind around. That being said, what was your strangest request/demand by a client?

I had a gentleman come in and ask me for a back piece of a Ku Klux Klan rally. The odd thing about that was that he was a black man and he hated black people. Needless to say, his request was denied.

You have a friend that tattoos at another shop (Rodney Raines at Ace Tattoo) that you respect and admire and you travel to tattoo conventions together. Does he do any work on you?

My respect for Rodney started with our friendship as we've known each other since we were teenagers. I knew his older sister before him. And, yes, he's in the process of tattooing my ribs/thigh which is a Fudo (after which my shop is named). Fudo Myoo is the full name of the deity. Fudo Myoo literally means 'the immovable wisdom king'. He is the guardian of Buddhism. He converts anger into compassion and cuts the ties of negative feelings and demons to eliminate us from suffering through self control. Getting that tattoo only seemed fitting and I couldn't imagine someone better to do it.

What was the best experience you had with a client / your favourite tattooing memory?

I really can't say that I can pinpoint just one tattoo as I just enjoy tattooing. Period. Everything about it. And you can trust me when I say that I am a dying breed.

You were recently in an interview with MAV TV (Tattooing in America) and one with Tattoo Artist Magazine. And I understand that you have turned down about five interviews with TV shows. Tell me why this is.

Because I don't believe in prostituting my industry for not the common good. It has made the client dumber (they think they can get a back piece in 3 ½ hours) and I just don't agree with 'it' as a whole.

Currently you play drums in a local Viking metal band that has played all over the region called Vulture. How did this come about?

(Joshua) Taddeo and I started the band mostly just out of a resentment for a lot of heavy music that was around Charlotte. So we started sitting down and writing music and then Travis (Lakeman) joined the band. We played as a three piece instrumental for a while and then we added our lead singer, Bart Lattimore.

Will Charlotte be able to boast another Fu's Tattoos at any point?

You never know now, do ya?

What does Joey like to do if any spare time presents itself?

Long walks on the beach, beer and fuzzy animals.

- Hire Joey for your next piece. Call the shop: 704.376.4556

- Vulture has released a self-entitled EP. Check them out at: www.ReverbNation.com/VultureVikingMetal

- Upcoming at BAKU GALLERY
March: Beard and Mustache Club
April: It's a STHD
June: CC Evans & Crew's "Rhymes & Designs"
July: Fu's Tattoo Artists

(Photos by Ellen Gurley)

Fu's Custom Tattoo / Baku Gallery
3200 N Davidson St
Charlotte, NC 28205
704.376.4556
www.FusTattoos.com

Events In Your City

Sundays in March/April

Sundays @ Soul Gastrolounge
12pm DJ Scott Weaver Presents: "Disco Brunch"

Bobcats
3.02 @ Oklahoma City Thunger 7pm
3.16 @ Milwaukee Bucjks 1pm

Sundays @ the Saloon
3.09 Matthews & the Arrogant Sea
3.16 Revelus, Shadow of Myself, Shadows of Deceit

Sundays @ Common Market (Plaza-Midwood)
2pm Slow Riders - 15 mile bike ride

Sundays @ Twenty-Two
3.09, 3.23. 4.06, 4.20 "Brain Buster Bananagans" trivia w.Bill "the Thrill" Cleveland

Sundays @ Bonfire (Indian Trail)
5pm & 8pm www.IMovePubPoker.com
Sundays @ Cathode Azure

Drag & Tea Dance w.DJ Lil Betty

Checkers
3.02 @ Hershey 4pm
3.09 @ San Antonio 5pm
3.16 vs. Lake Erie 7pm
3.23 vs. San Antonio 1:30pm
3.30 vs. Oklahoma City 1:30pm
4.06 @ Oklahoma City 5pm
4.13 vs. Grand Rapids 7pm

Sundays @ Smokey Joe's
Greg Brangle & the Blue Tenders

Sundays @ Providence United Methodist Church
7pm the Providence Chamber Music Recital Series (once a month)
3.16 Suite in D major for Unaccompanied Trombone by Georg Phillip Telemann (all Baroque program)
4.27 Le Collique des deux Perruches by Jean Francaix

Sundays @ Snug Harbor
"Bone Snugs-N-Harmony" karaoke w.Bryan Pierce

Sundays @ Tremont
3.16 Greg Neal vinyl/CD show
3.23 Between the Buried & Me, Deafheaven, Intronaut, the Kindred
4.20 BlessTheFall, Silverstein, the Amity Affliction, Secrets, Heartist
Sundays @ Scorpio
Gypsy Starr Presents: "Sexy Sundays" feat. DJ RageN'Ray

Sundays @ Label
"Trappy" w.DJs Wiggz n Wonz

Knights
4.06 @ NOR
4.13 vs. NOR
4.20 @ GWN
4.27 @ ROC

Sundays @ the Chop Shop
3.09 Spirit Caravan (reunion), Pilgrim
3.16 Tuatha Dea

Sundays @ the Levine Museum of the New South
Free admission

Sundays @ Belk Theater
4.13 John Legend
4.27 Kenny Loggins
Sun., March 2nd
49ers vs. Old Dominion 4pm

Sun., March 2nd @ the Fillmore
Emblem3

Sun., March 9th @ ME Boutique
1-3pm "Swap til you Drop" 704.644.0070

Sun., March 16th @ Ovens Auditorium
Don Williams, Colm Kirwan

Sun., March 16th @ Bulldog Beer & Wine
1 yr. anniversary feat. a scavenger hunt
Sun., March 16th FULL MOON 12:08 PM

Sun., March 23rd @ JJ's Red Hots
School of Rock (fundraiser) feat. the School of Rock showteam & Rock Chorus students + the Whisky Dollars

Sun., March 23rd @ Marigny
7-9pm makeup artist & hairstylist competition

Sun., March 23rd @ the Omni Hotel
www.CarolinaRAIN.org 's www.SweetToothFestival.com

Sun., March 30th @ Kate's Skating Rink
1pm Clown Skate Jam (a benefit for a Child's Place)

Sun., March 30th @ the Comedy Zone
Russell Peters

Mondays in March/April

Mondays @ Lebowski's
1/2 off bottles of wine

Mondays @ Bulldog Beer & Wine
6:30 MEAT Up (bring your own meat and grill it w.other beer loving patrons)

Bobcats
3.03 @ Miami Heat 7:30pm
3.10 vs. Denver Nuggets 7pm
3.17 vs. Atlanta Hawks 7pm
3.24 vs. Houston Rockets 7pm
4.14 @ Atlanta Hawks 7:30pm

Mondays @ Soul Gastrolounge
DJ Mookie Brill

Mondays @ UpStage
7pm Iron Bartender

Mondays @ Snug Harbor
Fresh Grounds Presents: "Knocturnal" w.Justin Aswell
3.10 Busdriver, Open Mike Eagle, Nocando, Milo

Mondays @ Growler's Pourhouse
DJ Elon Shomaker

Mondays @ the Double Door Inn
Monday Night All Stars

Mondays @ the Milestone
3.03 Norma Jean, Spoken, Skinkage
3.10 Exmortus, Lich King, Nemesis, Phthartic

Mondays @ Stooges (Mint-Hill)
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Mondays @ the Evening Muse
"Find Your Muse" open mic band night w.guest headliners
3.24 the Stray Birds

Mondays @ Twenty-Two
Figure Drawing & Beer Tasting

Mondays @ Bonfire (Indian Trail)
7pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Mondays @ St. Martin's Episcopal Church
free lunchtime concerts
3.10 Thistledown Tinkers
4.07 North Carolina Baroque Orchestra

Mondays @ Crown Station
"Blue Mondays" (last Monday of every month)
w.residents Foundless & KT Caustic
Knights
4.07 @ DUR
4.14 vs. DUR
4.21 @ GWN
4.28 @ ROC

Mondays @ Puckett's
open mic w.Piece Bucket

Mondays @ the Visulite Theatre
3.24 Terraplane Sun, Little Daylight
3.31 American Authors, Wild Cub

Mon., March 3rd @ Halton Theater
www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents: Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra Winter Concert

Mon., March 3rd @ the Fillmore
Vertical Horizon & Tonic

Mon., March 10th @ the Comedy Zone
"Underwear Comedy Party" feat. Blayr Nias, Joe Pettis, Jeremy Mesi, Sarah McCoy, Rob McDonald, Tom Stover

Mon., Apr. 4th @ Time Warner Cable Arena
Miley Cyrus, Icona Pop, Sky Ferreira

Tuesdays in March/April

Tuesdays @ NoDa Brewing Co.
"NoDable Series" (new beers released in their taproom)

Tuesdays @ the Visulite
3.04 Shovels & Rope, Riff Raff
3.18 F3T - Jesse Brown Outdoors
3.25 Daley

Tuesdays @ Snug Harbor
"Country Tuesdays" w.Derek Dexter Ghent & Corey Alexander Ziegler
3.18 Ava Luna, Bo White, Krill

Tuesdays @ the Chop Shop
3.11 Beard & Mustache Club of NC (monthly meeting)
3.25 King Parrot, Vattnet Viskar, Vaporizer

Tuesdays @ Philosopher Stone
Bingo

Tuesdays @ the Double Door
Bill Hanna Jazz Jam

Tuesdays @ Apostrophe
open mic spoken poetry w.Jah Smalls

Tuesdays @ Big Al's
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Tuesdays @ Crown Station
Jazz, Blues & Morning Brews 12-3pm /
Tues. Night Mic Fights 10pm

Tuesdays @ the Dandelion Market
Shane "Mr. Red" Elks

Tuesdays @ Dharma
"Free Yoga" feat. DJ Jah-Sun Rising (Jason Herring)
• Knights
4.08 @ DUR
4.15 vs. DUR
4.22 vs. DUR
4.29 @ ROC

Tuesdays @ Soul Gastrolounge
DJs Shanti & Brad Pressley

Tuesdays @ Goodtimes (Monroe)
7pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Tuesdays @ Jackalope Jack's
Open Mic Comedy Night hosted by James Dugan tomakeyoulaugh@gmail.com

Tuesdays @ Smokey Joe's
9pm Band Open Mic Night w.resident band the Smoking J's (feat. Peter Gray, James Brock, John Shaughnessy & Colby Dobbs)

Tuesdays @ the Common Market (Plaza-Midwood)
8pm PMTNR 15 mile bicycle ride w.a new route weekly (by Pamela Murray)

Tuesdays @ the Stashe House
DJ DR

Tuesdays @ Petra's
(2nd & 4th) Trivia Nights hosted by Lana Cane

Tuesdays @ Big Al's (Monroe)
7pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Tuesdays @ the Comet Grill
Red Rockin' Chair

Tuesdays @ the Neighborhood Theatre
3.11 Snarky Puppy
4.01 "Jazz & Jokes" feat. Smokie Suarez

Tuesdays @ the Saloon
3.04 Wild Adriatic
4.25 Trae Pierce & T-Stone

Tues., March 18th @ the Fillmore
George Thorogood & the Destroyers
Tues., March 25th @ the Evening Muse
Nicole Atkins, Arc Isis

Tues., March 25th
Checkers @ Iowa 6:35pm

Tues., Apr. 15th FULL MOON 2:42 AM

Wednesdays in March/April

Wednesdays @ Common Market (Southend)
DJ Jah-Sun Rising (Jason Herring)
Bobcats
3.05 vs Indian Pacers 7pm
3.12 @ Washington Wizards 7pm
3.19 @ Brooklyn Nets 7:30pm
3.26 vs. Brooklyn Nets 7pm
4.02 @ Philadelphia Sixers 7pm
4.09 @ Washington Wizards 7pm
4.16 vs. Chicago Bulls 8pm

Wednesdays @ the Fillmore
3.05 ZZ Ward
3.19 Children of Bodom
4.02 Weezer
4.23 Chevelle

Wednesdays @ Crown Station
8:30pm Open Mic Comedy Throwdown

Wednesdays @ Levine Museum of the New South
7-9pm A Sign of the Times Presents:
"Diggin' History" (through music, dance & spoken word)
4.09 6pm Taste of the New South : Savor the Sixties

Knights
4.09 @ DUR
4.16 vs. GWN
4.23 vs. DUR

Wednesdays @ Smokey Joe's
Quinchy & Friends

Wednesdays @ Scorpio
Tiffany Storm, RageN'Ray

Wednesdays @ the Fern
Jim Garrett

Wednesdays @ the Common Market (Plaza-Midwood)
Free beer tastings

Wednesdays @ the Evening Muse
(every 1st Wednesday of every month)
John Tosco Presents: "the Tosco House Party")

Wednesdays @ Zen Fusion
Robert Fernandez

Wednesdays @ the Mint Museum
(Randolph & Tryon locations)
5pm free admission +ArtFusion 6pm
3.12 Randolph: El Dorado
4.09 Tryon: Flower Power

Wednesdays @ Pisces
1/2 off bottles of wine

Wednesdays @ the Comedy Zone
3.05 Craig Robinson
3.19 Tom Stover Presents: "Southern Fried Vegas Lounge Comedy" feat. the Southern Madman (Tom Stover) & more TBA

Wednesdays @ the Tavern
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Wednesdays @ the Neighborhood Theatre
3.12 Eddie Money
3.26 Jarabe de Palo
4.09 Todd Rundgren

Wednesdays @ Jukebox (Indian Trail)
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Wednesdays @ Elwood's
7pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Wednesdays @ Big Woody's
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Wednesdays @ Philosopher's Stone
the Pickers

Wednesdays @ the Visulite
3.19 Tribal Seeds, New Kingston, Inna Vision
4.16 Dirty Dozen Brass Band

Wednesdays @ the Saloon
3.05 Sun-Dried Vibes
3.12 RA, Adakain, Auxilla, Beyond Amends, Red Eyed Romance
3.19 Funktapuss

Checkers
3.12 @ Texas 8:30pm
3.19 @ Norfolk 7:15pm
3.26 @ Iowa 6:35pm

Wednesdays @ Sam Ash Music
7-8:30pm singer/songwriter open mic
(\$10 Sam Ash gift card to all performers)

Wed., March 12th @ the Milestone
Gasoline Heart, Sidewalks, the Homewreckers, Dear Kavalier

Wed., March 19th @ Silver Hammer Studios
Iron Fork www.CLCLT.com/Events
Wed., March 26th @ McGlohon Theatre
Preservation Hall Jazz Band

Wed., Apr. 16th @ Tremont
Behemoth, Goatwh*re, 1349, Inquisition, Black Crown Initiate

Wed., Apr. 23rd @ Belk Theater
7:30pm www.CharlotteSymphony.org 27th Annual Youth Festival

Thursdays in March/April

Thursdays @ Queen City Bicycles
6:30pm Tub Ride from there to
Birdsong (free 12oz. to those with www.
BicycleBenefits.com)

Thursdays @ Snug Harbor
DJ Scott Weaver Presents: "Shiprocked"
3.06 Quilla (+ the Leverage models)

Thursdays @ UpStage
www.Touch1Productions.com Presents:
"We are Art" - spoken word poetry
w.Jaycee Cowan McField

Thursdays @ Bonfire (Concord)
7pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Thursdays on www.PBSCharlotte.org
8:30pm Charlotte Cooks

Thursdays @ the Double Door
3.13 Magas Colorado
3.20 Aer, RDGLDGRN, New Beat Fund

Thursdays @ Goodtimes (Monroe)
7 & 10pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Thursdays @ the Charlotte Transit Center
Uptown (in Bay X)
www.Friendship-Gardens.org Mobile
Market

Thursdays @ the Saloon
3.13 My Darlind Fury, Jesse Denaro,
Animal Flag
3.20 Speaker, Wicked Jones, Anything
Once

Knights
4.03 @ NOR
4.10 @ DUR
4.17 vs. GWN
4.24 vs. DUR

Thursdays @ Marigny
"Equality Thursdays" w.DJ Ghost
Thursdays @ Julia's Cafe & Books
9am "Cold Reads" feat. George Gray &
more (play reading)

Thursdays @ the Milestone
3.06 East of the Wall, Diamond Plate,
Musket King
3.27 Modern Day Future Presents: Dave
Hause, Northcote

Thursdays @ Petra's
"the Happening" feat. fire juggling, DJs,
poets, aerial dancing

Thursdays @ the Comedy Zone
3.06 Moshe Kasher
3.13 Deray Davis
3.20 Sarah Colonna
3.27 Russell Peters
4.10 Nikki Glaser

Thursdays @ Tommy's Pub
open mic w.Brett Greer

Thursdays @ Blue
John Alexander, Ron Brenale, Chris Garges
www.JaJazz.net

Thursdays @ the Neighborhood Theatre
3.13 Pecha Kucha
4.03 Kris Allen

Thursdays @ Jackalope Jack's
karaoke w.Greg Martinez

Thursdays @ the Fillmore
3.20 2 Chainz, Pusha T., August Alsina
3.27 Pentatonix
4.03 Railroad Earth
4.24 "Girls Night Out" (benefitting the
Ronald McDonald House)

Thursdays @ Crown Station
9pm Slam Duncan & Friends
3.06 5-8pm Rissi Palmer

Thursdays @ Philospher's Stone
Fudd & friends (front) / Runner's club
(back)

Thursdays @ the Visulite
3.06 Houndmouth, Rayland Baxter
3.13 Green River Ordinance, Elenowen,
Emily Hearn
3.20 Aer, RDGLDGRN, New Beat Fund
4.17 One to Watch, Eric Hutchinson, Saints
of Valory
4.24 Tycho, Gardens & Villa

Thursdays @ Label
"Label Me" w.DJ Dirty

Thurs., March 6th
the 15th anniversary of the Big Lebowski

Thurs., March 6th
49ers @ Huntington W.VA 7pm
Thurs., March 13th @ Bulldog Beer & Wine
1 yr. anniversary

Thurs., March 20th @ the Evening Muse
Noah Gundersen

Thurs., March 20th @ Time Warner Cable
Uptown Amphitheatre
Disney Junior Live : Pirate & Princess
Adventure

Thurs., March 27th @ the Chop Shop
the Werks, the Fritz, Duende Mountain
Duo

Thurs., March 27th @ McKnight Hall
(UNCC)
"Scarlet Fever" feat. Shangela (a fundraiser
for AIDS Walk Charlotte) + drag
performances

Thurs., Apr. 3rd @ Amos'
Rehab, Almost Kings

Thurs., Apr. 3rd @ Tremont
Combichrist, William Control, New Years
Day

Thurs., Apr. 10th
Checkers vs. Grand Rapids 7pm

Thurs., Apr. 24th @ PNC Music Pavilion
Jimmy Buffett

Fridays in March/April

Bobcats
3.07 vs. Cleveland Cavaliers 7pm
3.14 vs. Minnesota Timberwolves
3.28 @ Orlando Magic 7pm
4.04 vs. Orlando Magic 7pm
4.11 @ Boston Celtics 7:30pm

Fridays @ Snug Harbor
3.07 Hawk & Dove, Screaming J's. the Fat
Face Band
3.14 AM/FMs (release party)
3.21 the Independents, Chalkies, Snake &
the Plisskens
3.28 Free Clinic

Fridays @ Whiskey Warehouse
DJ Matt Bolick
Fridays @ Tyber Creek Pub
DJ Wiiz Kid (Steve Warwick)

Fridays in Southend (Camden & Park)
"Food Truck Fridays"

Fridays @ the Comet Grill
the Lenny Federal Band

Checkers
3.07 @ San Antonio 8:30pm
3.21 vs. San Antonio 7pm
4.04 @ San Antonio 8:30pm
4.18 @ Milwaukee 8pm

Fridays @ the Chop Shop
3.21 Ink Floyd Presents: St. Paul & the
Broken Bones, Pullman Strike, Sinners &
Saints
3.28 Big Something, Lingo, the Bloodworth
Project
4.04 "Charlotte Gets Weird" feat. Mr.
Invisible, Kyle Biddy, Boy Beats World, DRx
Wade, Nick Spain, Jason Wiggs & more
4.18 Yo Mama's Big Fat Booty Band,
Dopapod, Taak

Fridays @ the Charlotte Art League
(every 3rd Friday) 6-10pm "Brush & Beats"

Fridays @ Vinmaster Wine Shop
DJ DR

Fridays @ www.CharlotteHaunts.net
7pm Riding Ghost Tours
8pm Haunted Pub Riding Tour

Fridays @ the Double Door
3.07 the Hackensaw Boys
4.25 Delta Rae, Joshua James

Fridays @ the Neighborhood Theatre
3.07 Todd Oliver & friends
3.14 Sarah Jarosz
3.21 the Duhks
3.28 "Bass Church"
4.04 Junior Astronomers

Fridays @ the Evening Muse
3.14 the Hawthornes
3.28 Case Conrad, King of Prussia, Holy
Ghost Tent Revival

Fridays @ the Comedy Zone

3.07 Moshe Kasher
3.14 Deray Davis
3.21 Sarah Colonna
3.28 Russell Peters
4.11 Nikki Glaser

Knights

4.04 @ NOR
4.11 vs. NOR
4.18 vs. GWN
4.25 vs. DUR

Fridays @ UpStage

(every 1st Friday) 7:30pm Improv
Charlotte Comedy Show (+ dinner service)
(each month proceeds benefit a different charity) + karaoke w.Rachael Houdek

Fridays @ Sullivan's Steakhouse

"Beer & Beats" w.resident DJ Selector E
(Eric Brayman)

Fridays @ the Fillmore

3.07 Dropkick Murphys, Lucero, Skinny
Lister
3.21 Jana Kramer, Canaan Smith, Austin
Webb

Fridays @ the Visulite

3.07 Same as it Ever Was (a Talking Heads
tribute)
3.14 the Dirty Guvnahs, Cereus Bright
3.28 Kristian Bush (of Sugarland), Gal
Friday
4.04 Yarn
4.11 the Original Wailers
4.25 Delta Rae, Joshua James

Fridays @ Scorpio

"Fabulous Fridays"

Fri., March 7th @ Label
Green Latern

Fri., March 7th @ the Saloon
All the Locals, Radio Birds

Fri., March 7th @ the Summit Coffee Co.
(Davidson)
Gigi Dover & the Big Love

Fri., March 7th @ Heist
5pm Busted! Beer Bash

Fri., March 7th @ the New Gallery of
Modern Art
7-8:30pm www.FourMagazine.tv Magazine
Release Party (vol.4)

Fri., March 7th @ Studio 1212
Inspirational Ball (formal / red carpet)

Fri., March 14th @ Bulldog Beer & Wine
1 yr. anniversary

Fri., March 14th @ Coyote Joe's
Thomas Rhett, Jon Pardi

Fri., March 14th @ the Tavern
8pm www.PlanetImprov.com Presents: the
"Some Folks Have All the Luck" Comedy
Musical Variety Extravaganza starring the
Chuckleheads (fundraiser + prizes)

Fri., March 21st @ Tremont

We Butter the Bread with Butter, Lions
Lions, Honour Crest, Everthrone, Regions

Fri., March 28th @ McGlohon Theater
Bela Fleck, Abigail Washburn

Fri., March 28th @ the Milestone
Emotron, Base of Bass, Bastards of Fate,
Luciferian Agenda

Fri., March 28th @ NoDa Brewery
Phil Lomac

Fri., March 28th @ Knight Theater
www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents:
"Friday (K)night Out" - a Little Knight
Music (Christopher Warren-Green
conducting)

Fri., Apr. 4th @ NC Music Factory
www.Alumni.UNCC.edu/GreenTieGala
(benefitting need-based scholarships)

Saturdays in March/April

Saturdays @ McGlohon Theater
3.15 7:30pm Banff Mountain Film Festival
4.05 Marsha Ambrosius

Saturdays @ Nan & Bryon's
"Drink & Dance" w.DJ Clay Hefner

Saturdays @ Atherton Market
9am-12pm free pickles & entertainment
with the Pickleman from Pickleville

Saturdays @ the Knight Theater
4.05 10am www.CharlotteSymphony.org
"Lollipops" Little Red Riding Hood
4.19 8pm Chick Corea solo piano

Saturdays @ Roxbury
DJ Jody

Checkers
3.01 @ Hershey 7pm
3.08 @ Texas 8pm
3.15 vs. Lake Erie 7pm
3.29 vs. Oklahoma City 7pm
4.05 @ Oklahoma City 8pm
4.19 @ Rockford 8pm

Bobcats
3.08 @ Memphis Grizzlies 8pm
3.22 vs. Portland Blazers 7pm
4.05 @ Cleveland Cavaliers 7:30pm
4.12 vs. Philadelphia Sixers 7pm
Saturdays @ Jukebox (Indian Trail)
5pm & 8pm www.IMovePubPoker.com

Knights
4.05 @ NOR
4.12 vs. NOR
4.19 @ GWN
4.26 @ ROC

Saturdays @ www.CharlotteHaunts.net
7pm Riding Ghost Tours
8pm Haunted Pub Riding Tour

Saturdays @ the Double Door

3.01 Billy Thompson
3.08 Wayne Hancock
3.15 Drift Wood Miracle, Slinger Francisco,
Elisa Ray

Saturdays @ Bistro La Bon

"Alter Ego Saturdays" w.DJ that Guy Smitty
Saturdays @ VBGB
DJ J Overcash

Saturdays @ Tyber Creek Pub

DJ Wiiz Kid (Steve Warwick)
Saturdays in Charlotte www.JunkRescue.
com
8am-1pm (last Saturday of every month)
"Junk Sale" 1.800.JUNK.911

Saturdays @ Madison's Coffee House (Indian Trail)

"Cup of Humor" (every first Saturday)
feat. comics: Darryl Smith, Rob McDonald,
Roxanne McDonald, James Dugan, Ed Fox

Saturdays @ the Common Market (Plaza- Midwood)

10am-1pm Farmers Market w.the Farm at
Dover Vineyards
PM local music
4.26 Fire Marshal Bill, Pinko

Saturdays @ Amos'

3.22 Departure (a Journey tribute)
4.05 Cliff 'Em All (a Metallic tribute), Hell
Awaits (a Slayer tribute), Tornado of Souls
(a Megadeth tribute), Among the Living (an
Anthrax tribute) + Skinn Jakkitt
4.12 www.SingleCell.us Presents: the 11th
Anniversary Pugatory (57 : Fallen Angels)

Saturdays @ the Chop Shop

3.01 Strip the Runway
3.08 Dizzy Wright, Mark Battles
3.15 "One's 2 Watch" feat. Marvel Years,
Kyle Biddy, Boy Beats World & more
3.22 Beard & Mustache Club of NC
Presents: "Carolina BAM 2014"
3.29 Doug Stanhope (early show) / Triton,
avenuedrive, the Neil Jackson Band,
Something Clever (late show)

Saturdays @ the Neighborhood Theatre

3.01 Sebastian Mikael
3.08 reggae DJ night
4.05 Dave Barnes
4.12 Mipso
4.26 Emerson Hart

Saturdays @ the Comedy Zone

3.08 Moshe Kasher
3.15 Deray Davis
3.22 Sarah Colonna
3.29 Russell Peters
4.12 Nikki Glaser / Doug Benson

Saturdays @ Coyote Joe's

3.08 the Lacs, Early Ray
3.22 Aaron Lewis, Michael Ray

Saturdays @ the Visulite
 3.01 Brawley's Black & Blue V (SOLD OUT)
 3.08 Big Mammass House of Burlesque
 3.15 Futurebirds
 3.29 Abbey Road (a Beatles tribute)
 4.26 Man or Astro-Man

Saturdays @ the Fillmore
 3.08 Excision

3.29 On the Border (an Eagles tribute)
 4.05 Get the Led Out (a Led Zeppelin tribute)
 4.19 Local Natives, Moses Sumney
 4.26 Lady Antebellum, Kip Moore, Kacey Musgraves

Saturdays @ NC Music Factory
 3.01 Big Tigger
 3.22 Goose Island Beer Co. Presents: the www.AllAleToTheQueen.com Beer Carnival

Saturdays @ Tremont
 3.01 Comeback Kid, Backtrack, Xibalba, Downpresser, to the Wind
 3.22 He is Legend, Faith & Fiction, Thieving Coyote

Saturdays @ Jackalope Jack's
 karaoke w.Bill "the Thrill" Cleveland

Saturdays @ Bar 316
 Buff Faye & Patti O'Furniture's Big Fun Comedy Drag Hour

Saturdays @ Dharma
 3.01 Heavy Heads Present: "Astral Hertz" feat. Gyromite, Shuguy, Forrest Bump, Tony Dubz, B.Z., Will Love
 3.08 Nat Eichler (bday), KT Caustic, Arthur Brothers (bday) & more

Saturdays @ Snug Harbor
 3.01 Knocturnal Presents: Blowfish
 3.08 Reeve Coobs & the Band of Men
 3.22 DTCV, Spaceships
 4.12 Holly Golightly & the Brokeoffs

Saturdays @ Saloon
 3.08, 3.15, 3.22 Jon Linker Band
 Sat. March 1st @ Park Road Books
 11am Suess-a-thon

Sat., March 1st @ Scorpio's
 CIAA Madness Set-it Off feat. Elaine Davis & DJ Rico

Sat., March 1st @ Howl at the Moon
 1pm DJs Cuzzin' B., Face, True School, 9TH WONDER

Sat., March 1st @ Cameo
 Young Jeezy, T.I.

Sat., March 1st @ Studio Movie Grill
 1pm DJs Quicksilver & PNUT

Sat., March 1st @ the Evening Muse
 Time Sawyer (CD release)

Sat., March 1st @ Wine Vault
 Rich Challen

Sat., March 1st @ the Midnite Rodeo
 Doo Wop

Sat., March 1st @ Label
 12pm AKA Presents: DJs Skillz & Hot Rod

Sat., March 1st @ Finz (Matthews)
 Perfect Strangers

Sat., March 1st @ the Bathtub Gin (Mooresville)
 Analog Daze

Sat., March 1st @ Charbar
 the Chuck Johnson Duo

Sat., March 1st @ Phoenix
 1-7pm Kid Capri

Sat., March 1st @ Belk Theater
 www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents:
 Symphonie Fantastique (Robert Moody conducting, Sarah Jane McMahon soprano)

Sat., March 1st @ Be Yoga (Carmel)
 7pm Yin & Yang Workshop w.Ashley Masters & Kacy Pleasants

Sat., March 8th @ Dilworth Neighborhood Grill
 5:30-8pm Community Charter School art crawl fundraiser

Sat., March 8th @ Grapevine
 2-6pm www.ShakeYourShamrocks.
 info "6th Annual Beertopia" (benefitting charities)

Sat., March 15th @ Bulldog Beer & Wine
 1 yr. anniversary feat. a night of Grateful Dead covers & more

Sat., March 15th @ Petra's
 Sinners & Saints (CD release), the Ramblin' Fevers, Rebekah Todd

Sat., March 22nd @ Petra's
 Everymen, Dirty South Revolutionaries, Appalucia, the Old Time Remedy

Sat., March 22nd @ Grady Cole Center
 Charlotte Roller Girls' 1st home bout of the 2014-15 season

Sat., March 22nd @ the Milestone
 the Scotch Bonnetts, Dr. Cirkustien

Sat., March 22nd @ the Time Warner Cable Arena
 1pm the Harlem Globetrotters

Sat., March 29th @ Heist
 3pm Art on tap : beer tasting w.Yams

Sat., Apr. 12th @ Bojangle's Coliseum
 Katt Williams

Sat., Apr. 12th @ Ovens Auditorium
 Amos Lee

Sat., Apr. 19th @ www.BarsAgainstAIDS.org
 RAIN's Amazing Race Bar Crawl

Sat., Apr. 26th in Plaza-Midwood
 (street & business) art crawl

Sat., Apr. 26th @ PNC Music Pavilion
 Lady Antebellum, Kip Moore, Kacey Musgraves

SPECIAL OR MULTIPLE DAY EVENTS

- check out www.PMCRadio.org for a schedule of DJs daily

- @ 316 Fridays & Saturdays : DJ Jay-R / Tuesdays & Sundays : Karaoke w. DJ Skittlez

- Tuesdays & Thursdays @ Dakota's : Poker Night

- Mon-Thurs @ Dilworth Neighborhood Grille : Kids Eat Free (w.purchase of one adult entree)

- THIRD WEEKEND of every month @ the Metrolina Expo : Metrolina Flea Bazaar

- Saturdays in Charlotte : Learn to Compost : different locations each time / workshop www.WipeOutWaste.com

- BAKU GALLERY NoDa - Art monthly - March: Beard and Mustache Club, April: It's a STHD

- Philosopher's Stone : Fri & Sat local music / Sat & Sun bloody mary bar

- March 20th-30th @ Duke Energy Theater : Shakespeare Carolina Presents : Julius Caesar (Thurs 7:30pm / Fri & Sat 8pm)

- March 21st-23rd @ the Hilton University www.MadMonsterParty.com feat. Corey Feldman, Ogre, Rowdy Roddy Piper, Patricia Quinn, the Rocky Horror Picture Show (reunion), William Shatner, Hulk Hogan, Henry Winkler, Sid Haig, Doyle, Friday the 13th (reunion) & more

- March 28th-30th www.GottaSwingCharlotte.com Presents: the "Hot Tamale Swing Dance Weekend"

- March 21st-23rd www.BMCofNC.com 's www.CarolinaBam.com

- THRU March 29th @ the McColl Center for Visual Art : "Thresholds" by Quynh Vantu

- THRU March 15th @ Actor's Theater : "By the Way, Meet Vera Stark" (comedy) www.ATCharlotte.org

- March 1st - May 31st www.WipeOutWaste.com : Great American Cleanup

- March 4th-9th "Evita" @ Blumenthal Performing Arts Center

- THRU March 7th @ Actor's Theatre of Charlotte : "By the Way, Meet Vera Stark" by Lynn Nottage (Wed & Thurs 7:30-9:30pm / Fri & Sat 8-10pm)

- March 7th-14th @ Shain Gallery : Spring Cleaning Show

- March 4th-29th @ Charlotte Fine Art Gallery : Barbara Pennington : a Retrospective (opening reception Fri., March 7th 6-9pm)

- March 6th-16th @ Knight Theater : www.NCDance.org Presents: "Cinderella" (choreography by Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux)

- March 12th-16th, 19th-23rd @ Area 15 : Citizens of the Universe Present: "the Sunset Unlimited" 7:30pm

- THRU March 12th @ UNC-Charlotte (uptown) / Projective Eye Gallery : HENRIQUE OLIVERIA

- March 12th-16th @ UpStage : the Citizens of the World Present: "the End of the World Sampler" 8pm

- March 14th-22nd 5th Annual www.CharlotteCraftBeer.org Week

- Fri., March 14th & Sat., March 15th @ Belk Theater www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents: Dvorak Symphony No. 8 (Christopher Warren-Green conducting, Stephen Hough piano)

- March 16th-29th @ the Duke Energy Theatre : Shakespeare Carolina Presents: "Julius Caesar" directed by Heather Busch

- THRU March 29th @ Jerald Melberg Gallery : Wolf Kahn for the 30th anniversary exhibition

- March 21st-April 6th @ Theatre Charlotte : Alfred Uhry's Driving Miss Daisy

- March 28th-30th www.SwingCharlotte.com 's Hot Tamale Swing Dance Weekend

- THRU March 29th @ Lark & Key Gallery : contemporary landscapes by Donna Baldassari, Ellen Delaney, Katherine Mead & Ralston Fox Smith

- Fri., Apr. 4th & Sat., Apr. 5th @ Knight Theater www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents: Debby Boone - Swing This (John Oddo conducting)

- Fri., Apr. 11th & Sat., Apr. 12th @ Belk Theater www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents: All Russian (Christopher Warren-Green conducting, Calin Lupanu violin)

- Fri., Apr. 25th & Sat., Apr. 26th @ Belk Theater www.CharlotteSymphony.org Presents: Charlie Chaplin's City Lights (Jacomio Rafael Bairos conducting)

- THRU June 29th @ Mint Museum

(Randolph) : Sonia Handelman Meyer's "Bearing Witness"

- THRU July 25th @ the Bechtler : Mario Botta (Architecture & Memory)

TRAVEL TO EVENTS

- Sat., March 8th Winston-Salem : www.HellzaPoppin.com feat. Mena Mae

- Mon., March 17th @ the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium : George Thorogood & the Destroyers

- March 29th Spartanburg : www.GreatAmericanCraftBeerTour.com

- Fri., April. 4th @ the Grey Eagle (Asheville) : Kool Keith, Lord King

- April 4th-6th Sanford, NC www.CarolinaFiberFest.org

- April 10th-13th (Blowing Rock) : the Blue Ridge Wine & Food Festival

LOCAL & REGIONAL SEASONAL OR ANNUAL EVENTS:

MARCH

- www.CIAATournament.org CIAA Basketball Tournament

- www.CharlotteCraftBeerWeek.com

- www.CharlotteStPatsDay.com

APRIL

- "Miles for Mutts" Benefit Ride

- www.NCBeerMonth.com

- Middle East Festival (Charlotte, NC) www.MiddleEastCouncilNC.org

- Charlotte Wine and Food Festival www.CharlotteWineAndFood.org

- www.HickoryHops.com Brew Festival

- Bar-B-Q, Bourbon & Beer

- Charlotte Bayou Festival www.BayouFestivalTour.com

- Foodlion Auto Fair

- Mineral Springs, NC : www.QueensCup.org

- Presents: Steeplechase

- Booze, Broads & BBQ

- Wilkesboro, NC www.MerleFest.org

- Loch Norman Highland Games (Huntersville)

- Sensorial (Arts Fest.) www.Sensoria.CPCC.edu

- Springfest

To see your event appear on our listing, please email it to **ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net** and we thank you for supporting the scene. And, as always, the **www.MyCityMagazine.net** website has a full venue listing to correspond with the events above.

To receive a weekly email with events in your area, email "subscribe" to **ellen.gurley@mycitymagazine.net**. Email subscribers are eligible to win giveaways. Upcoming freebies are life coaching from Alvaro Matta, tickets to the symphony, a massage from Davede Varner, growlers from Ass Clown, a ride with the party pedaler and free gas cards. Subscribe today.

Check out some of our upcoming Events!

3/1 - Strip the Runway

3/8- Dizzy Wright & Mark Battles

3/9 - Spirit Caravan w/ Pilgrim

3/11 - BEARD & MOUSTACHE CLUB OF NC MONTHLY MEETING

3/15- One's 2 Watch- An Artist Spotlight Series- Marvel Years

3/16- Tuatha Dea w/ Drumstrong Drum Circle

3/21 - St Paul and the Broken Bones w/ Pullman Strike & Sinners and Saints

3/22 - Beard & Moustache Club of NC presents Carolina BAM 2014

3/25 - KING PARROT & VATTNET VISKAR + VAPORIZER

3/27 - THE WERKS w/ The Fritz & Duende Mountain Duo

3/28- BIG SOMETHING w/ Lingo & The Bloodworth Project

3/29 - Doug Stanhope (Early show)

3/29 - Triton, avenedrive, The Neil Jackson Band & Something Clever (Late show)

Check out more events - Get more info:

CHOPSHOPNODA.COM

Coming Soon:

**Tattermasquerade,
GRAMATIK, DOPAPOD, OF MONTREAL**

**BIG SOMETHING, GRIZ,
YO' MOMMAS BIG FAT BOOTY BAND,
THE REVIVALISTS and more!**

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FRI MAR 7 8PM
**TODD OLIVER
& FRIENDS**
COMEDY, ROCK-N-ROLL & DOGS
AS SEEN ON AMERICA'S GOT TALENT

SAT MAR 8 9PM
**REGGAE
DJ NIGHT**

TUE MAR 11 8PM
**SNARKY
PUPPY**

WED MAR 12 8PM
**EDDIE
MONEY**

THU MAR 13 8PM
**PECHA
KUCHA**

FRI MAR 14 8PM
SHERPA | SQUARE PEG | MAXXMUSIC PRESENTS
**SARAH
JAROSZ**

FRI MAR 21 8PM
**THE
DUHKS**

WED MAR 26 8PM
**JARABE
DE PALO**

FRI MAR 28 9PM-2AM
MINDELIXIR PRESENTS
**BASS
CHURCH**

TUE APR 1 6PM
**JAZZ &
JOKES**
FEATURING
SMOKIE SUAREZ

THU APR 3 8PM
**KRIS
ALLEN**
WINNER OF AMERICAN IDOL

FRI APR 4 9PM
**JUNIOR
ASTRONOMERS**

SAT APR 5 8PM
**DAVE
BARNES**

WED APR 9 8PM
**TODD
RUNDGREN**

SAT APR 12 8PM
MIPSO

SAT APR 26 8PM
**EMERSON
HART**
OF TONIC

SUN MAY 25 8PM
**JUSTIN
HAYWARD**
OF THE MOODY BLUES

FRI SEP 19 8PM
**GAELIC
STORM**

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