

ARTS & CULTURE

January - February 2020



JANUARY

11th @ 8pm

LIVE MUSIC: SHARKEY & THE SPARKS

Featuring Sparkey McEwen & special guests at The Buttonwood Tree. For their full line up of events please visit: www.buttonwood.org

13th - 19th

TASTE OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY RESTAURANT WEEK

Sponsored by COMCAST BUSINESS

Take part in the 5th Annual Taste of Middlesex County. A week of diverse dining experiences within the Greater Middlesex region.

For a list of participating restaurants visit: www.middlesexchamber.com

14th @ 7pm

LIVE MUSIC: SOMEONE YOU CAN XRAY ACOUSTIC SESSIONS

Hosted by Klekolo World Coffee

For their full line up of events & exhibits visit: www.facebook.com/Klekolo/ and www.klekolo.com

18th @ 2pm - 4pm

OPENING RECEPTION: STUDENT SHOW

Hosted by Wesleyan Potters

Featuring metals, ceramics, weaving and basketry from January 15th - February 2nd For more information visit: www.wesleyanpotters.com

20th @ 1pm

MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Hosted by Wesleyan RJ Julia Bookstore

To register for the FREE event visit: <https://bit.ly/2S4xkZd>

23rd @ 7:30 pm

ARTIST FOR WORLD PEACE MUSIC AT THE HUBBARD HOUSE

One Concert-One Child presents: Storytellers Sara deBeer and Steve Long The Hubbard House, 377 Ridge Rd., Middletown, for more info visit: www.artistsforworldpeace.org

25th 1pm-9pm

THE 2ND ANNUAL MIDDLETOWN TEEN TALENT SEARCH

Hosted by Oddfellows Playhouse 128 Washington St. 860-347-6143

31st @ 7:30 pm

GOLDEN HORNET'S "THE SOUND OF SCIENCE"

featuring Jeffrey Zeigler 221 High St., @ Memorial Chapel www.wesleyan.universitytickets.com

FEBRUARY

3rd @ 7:00pm

THE ELEMENTS ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES 2019-2020

FILM SCREENING: *ARTIFISHAL*

@ Wesleyan, CFA Ring Family Performing Arts Hall FREE EVENT & open to the public!

14th @ 7:30pm

NEW ENGLAND DANCE on TOUR

Hosted by Wesleyan Univ., CFA @ Wesleyan, CFA Theater www.wesleyan.universitytickets.com

16th @ 7:30pm

AFWP ON BROADWAY 9!

Hosted by Artist For World Peace www.artistsforworldpeace.org

21st @ 7:30pm

BEETHOVEN'S 250TH BIRTHDAY BASH

Hosted by Wesleyan Univ., CFA @ Crowell Concert Hall www.wesleyan.universitytickets.com

ON EXHIBIT



by Artist Charlotte Epright

On Exhibit for January 2020

CHARLOTTE EPRIGHT

@ Klekolo World Coffee 181 Court St. www.klekolo.com For more of her work follow her on @chickychai on Instagram Or the Lovecraft tattoo.com <https://www.tattoo.com/>

ON EXHIBIT



Sydney Morris, "Liquid Sky"

January 21 – March 4, 2020

DAVID BORAWSKI

"MURDER FOR A JAR OF RED RUM"

100 Training Hill Rd. Pegasus Gallery @ Middlesex Community College Reception: 1/29, 5-7 pm <https://mxcc.edu/art-exhibits/pegasus-gallery/>

January 21 – March 4, 2020

SYDNEY MORRIS, "LIQUID SKY"

100 Training Hill Rd. Pegasus Gallery The Niche @ Middlesex Community College Reception: 1/29, 5-7 pm <https://mxcc.edu/art-exhibits/niche/>

ON EXHIBIT

January 2020 @ THE RUSSELL LIBRARY

FUTURES, INC. - ART EXHIBIT

123 Broad St., 860-347-2528 www.russelllibrary.org Visit the second floor to view paintings & collage/paintings, many with nature themes and natural materials incorporated, created by artists with disabilities. For more information visit: <https://futures-ct.org/>

Register Today!!!
For the SECOND ANNUAL
MIDDLETOWN
TEEN
TALENT
SEARCH
Saturday, January 25, 2020



Hosted by CT State Troubadour, Nekita Waller

Open to Central Connecticut Teens, ages 12-19

Solo or group acts! All performance styles welcome!

Oddfellows Playhouse win CASH PRIZES!!

To register, or for info:
visit www.oddfellows.org
Call 860-347-6143
or Email info@oddfellows.org

ARTS & CULTURE EVENTS

POET LAUREATE'S CORNER

A Gift of Robins

By Cheryl Anne Hale 2019

It wasn't a caroling, exactly; not like
spring arriving outside my
window— more like vermilion squabbling
above hard-packed January snow—
all brown wings, black crowns,
dozens of yellow beaks
snapping up scarlet berries—
stripping bare an ilex shrub
Was it a reliant ... or a blush?
Some say a bobbin of robins, others,
a rouge, a gift ... all collective nouns
for a LOT of robins—
fabled birds of a feather
that riot together;
though in other seasons, solitary—
patrolling grassy meadows for succulent grubs

One robin doth not a springtime make—
nor do forty robins, defying both faces of Janus:
12 degree daybreak—
61 degree noon—
11 degree dusk—.

The Gift... left;
spring rhythm sprung and broken—
hopes— frozen;
naked as an ilex shrub in January.

YOUTH THEATER

CLASSES IN SHAKESPEARE, PLAY WRITING, TEEN HIP HOP DANCE, CIRCROBATICS AND MORE!

All events take place at Oddfellows Playhouse, 128 Washington St.
For info, or to register, go to www.oddfellows.org
email: info@oddfellows.org, or call (860) 347-6143

MONDAY, JANUARY 6: The Complete Shakespearean begins. A 6-week class in performing Shakespeare for ages 14 - 20, offered in preparation for our Spring Teen Repertory Company. Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30, January 6 - February 10.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9: Writing Plays begins. A 6 week class for ages 14 - 20 with playwright Kristen Palmer. Culminates in a New Plays Festival on February 22.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11: Circrobatics classes begin for ages 18 months to 3 years, age 3 - 5 , and 6 - 8. A fun combination of age-appropriate acrobatics, circus, movement and games. Winter session continues through February 29.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13: Winter Classes and Oddbridge After-School Program begin for ages 6 - 13. Winter session runs 8 weeks.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15: Technical Theater and Design Class begins for ages 12 - 20.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16: Teen Hip Hop Dance Class with Felicia Goodwine begins for ages 12 - 18.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25: Second Annual Teen Talent Search, hosted by State Troubadour Nekita Waller. Area young people ages 12 - 19 compete for cash prizes. Preliminary rounds start at noon; finals at 7 pm. Performers must pre-register to compete.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22: at 7 pm: Teen Rep Company New Plays Festival - original plays by teen writers performed by Teen Rep Company under local professional directors.

FEBRUARY 27 - 28: at 7 pm and February 29 at 2 pm and 7 pm: Spysight is 20-20 Vision, an original circus-theater performance presented by Circophony Teen Circus under the direction of Allison McDermott.

GET NOTIFIED & CONNECTED

SIGN UP FOR ARTS & CULTURE NOTIFICATIONS

Visit and sign up at:

<https://www.middletonct.gov/955/Notifications>

ARTS & CULTURE NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

Email your event listings and images to:

arts@middletonct.gov

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit a community event to the community calendar:

<https://www.middletonct.gov/924/Community-Event>

COMMUNITY & BUSINESS GUIDE

View and become a part of the listings of community organizations, state & federal agencies & non-profits:

www.middletonct.gov/698/Community-Business-Guide

UNIFIED THEATER presents
dear journal

Thursday January 30th 7:00 PM
Friday January 31st 7:00 PM
Saturday February 1st 7:00 PM
Saturday February 1st 2:00 PM (snow date)
Middletown High School Performing Arts Center - \$5 Donation at the Door
spotlight on ability

ARTS & CULTURE

OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS GRANTS

MCA MATCHING FUNDS GRANT PROGRAM

The City of Middletown Commission on the Arts (MCA) welcomes grant applications from organizations, businesses & individuals with programs and/or projects that enrich the lives of Middletown residents through the arts. Commission funded programs and projects include, but are not limited to: performances, exhibitions, children's arts programs, arts education, public art, and other arts activities that benefit Middletown residents, with particular interest in programs that reach residents in all of the community's diversity.

Deadline for General Operating Support & Project Grants is 1/15/20.

Forms and guidelines are available at www.middletownct.gov/arts.

CITY ARTS OFFICE

UP TO DATE EVENT LISTINGS

For the most up to date listings of events taking place in Middletown, please visit www.facebook.com/cityartsoffice

LIKE TO SING?

MHVC SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

Like to sing but can't read music? No problem! The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords has many members just like you who love to sing. No auditions necessary! New members in all voice parts are welcome. Rehearsals are every Tuesday and begin on January 14, 2020 at St. Francis Church Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown. For more information visit their website at www.vocalchords20.org or email mhvocalchords20@gmail.com

LIKE TO SING?

GMCHORALE - OPEN REHEARSALS & AUDITIONS

The GMChorale invites interested adult and high-school aged singers in all voice parts to audition to join the ensemble as it prepares for an April 2020 concert of choral classics with string orchestra. Open rehearsals are scheduled for January 21 and January 28 at 6pm. Visit their website at www.gmchorale.org/auditions or email margie.livengood@gmchorale.org or call 860-633-6198.

WANTED!

GENTLY USED HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

What can you do with your child's old Halloween Costume? No need to throw another used costume in the closet. Middletown Recreation will be accepting gently used Halloween Costumes through October 1, 2020. Help make sure every child can wear a costume on Halloween. Contact rec@middletownct.gov for donations.

YOUTH & TEEN

KIDS SAFE ONLINE MS-ISAC® POSTER CONTEST

Offered to K-12 students nationwide. "The winners of the contest are made into cybersecurity awareness posters that are distributed throughout the country in recognition of National October Cyber Security Awareness Month. The contest runs until Friday, January 24, 2020." Visit: www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/ms-isac-toolkit/

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT

Applications for the summer are available online at www.middletownct.gov/331/Seasonal-Employment and are due by **Friday, March 13, 2020**. Positions are available to those 16 and older. Applications must be returned to the proper department:

*Rec & Community Services @ 61 Durant Terrace

*Kids Arts @ Arts & Culture Office, City Hall

*Youth Services Bureau @ 372 Hunting Hill Ave.

*Parks Division of Public Works @ 319 Butternut St.



CULTURAL CONNECTORS

THE CONNECTICUT FREEDOM TRAIL

The Underground Railroad: To learn more and to view the Underground Railroad Map visit www.ctfreedomtrail.org

Middletown Sites:

*Benjamin Douglas House

11 South Main Street

*Cross Street A.M.E. Zion Church

160 Cross Street

*Leverett Beman Historic District

Cross & Vine Streets

GENEALOGY The Godfrey Memorial Library

Services offered: 24/7 online access, onsite research help, educational & volunteer opportunities and membership options. Ongoing research help provided!
134 Newfield St., www.godfrey.org or call 860-346-4375

LOCAL HISTORY Middlesex County Historical Society

Located in the General Mansfield House at 151 Main St.
For appointments call 860-346-0746 or email mchs@wesleyan.edu

RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES

WINTER AND SPRING BROCHURE

Visit their website to view the brochure containing a complete list of activities from January 1 - April 30, 2020. 61 Durant Terrace, Phone: 860-638-4500, www.middletownct.gov/recreation

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN'S SKATING RINK AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Saturday, November 30 - Saturday, March 28

Saturdays & Sundays 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Monday, January 20 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm No School

Tuesday, February 18 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm No School

Last Saturday of the month,
the rink will be open 12:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Saturday, January 25
Saturday, February 29
Saturday, March 28

ARTS & CULTURE

RESOURCES

GALLERIES, LIBRARIES & MUSEUMS

City Art Collection
Municipal Bldg., City Hall
245 deKoven Dr.
www.middletownct.gov

Godfrey Memorial Library
www.godfrey.org

Kidcity Children's Museum
www.kidcitymuseum.com

MAC 650 Gallery & ArtistCo-Op
Facebook@mac650gallery

Middlesex Community College
• Pegasus Gallery, Chapman Hall
• The Niche Gallery, Founders Hall
www.mxcc.edu/art-exhibits

Middlesex County Historical Society
www.mchsct.org

Russell Library
www.russelllibrary.org

Wesleyan University, CFA
• Davison Art Center
• Ezra & Cecile Zilkha Gallery
• Mansfield Freeman Ctr.,
College of East Asian Studies
www.wesleyan.edu/cfa

ART INSTRUCTION, MIXED MEDIA & WORKSHOPS

Wesleyan Potters, Inc. Craft School and Co-op
www.wesleyanpotters.com

Middletown Art Academy
www.middletownartacademy.com

The Art Guild of Middletown
www.artguildofmiddletown.org

FAMILY & SENIOR SERVICES RECREATION

& COMMUNITY SERVICES
61 Durant Terrace
860-635-4500/4540
rec@middletownct.gov
www.middletownct.gov/recreation

SENIOR SERVICES DIVISION
61 Durant Terrace
860-638-4540
seniors@middletownct.gov
www.middletownct.gov

MIDDLETOWN YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU
372 Hunting Hill Avenue
860-854-6030
www.middletownct.gov
www.middletownyouthservices.org

DANCE, MUSIC PERFORMANCE THEATER & VISUAL ART

ARTFARM
www.art-farm.org

CT Gilbert & Sullivan Society
www.ctgands.org

CT Heritage Productions
www.chproductions.org

CT Poetry Society
www.ctpoetry.net

JCherry Foundation, Inc.
www.jcherryrepresents.com

Middlesex Hospital Vocal Cords
www.vocalchords20.org

Middletown Scottish Country Dancers
www.nhrscds.com

Middletown Stage Company
www.middletownstagecompany.org

Middletown Symphonic Band
www.middletownsymphonicband.org

Middletuners
The Senior Chorus of Middletown
Contact Barbara Arafeh/347-4887

Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater
www.oddfellows.org

Resonant Motion
www.resonantmotion.org

The Buttonwood Tree Performing Arts Center
www.buttonwood.org

The Greater Middletown Chorale
www.gmchorale.org

The Greater Middletown Concert Association
www.greatermiddletownconcerts.org

Vinnie's Jump and Jive
www.vinniesjumpandjive.com

Wadsworth Mansion at Long Hill Estate
www.wadsworthmansion.com

Wesleyan University, CFA
• Crowell Concert Hall
• Ring Family Performing Arts Hall
• World Music Hall
www.wesleyan.edu/cfa

FILM, MEDIA ARTS, RADIO, & SOUND PRODUCTION

The Coffeehouse Recording Studio
www.thecoffeehouse.net

Wesleyan University
• WESU 88.1 FM
www.wesufm.org
• Center for Film Studies
www.wesleyan.edu/cfilm

IN OUR CITY

City of Middletown
245 DeKoven Drive
Mayor Ben Florsheim
www.middletownct.gov

Downtown Business District (DBD)
Dining, Shopping & Business Directory
www.downtownmiddletown.com

Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce
www.middlesexchamber.com

Wesleyan ENGAGE
Stay connected with all things Wesleyan! Sign up for the Wesleyan ENGAGE newsletter to learn about events that are open to the public, K-12 programming, and local job and volunteer opportunities.
www.wesleyan.edu/jccp/

COMMUNITY BASED & SOCIAL SERVICE

Artist for World Peace (AFWP)
www.artistsforworldpeace.org

Family Wellness Center (CHC)
familywellness.chc1.com

North End Action Team (NEAT)
www.neatmiddletown.org

ARTIST & ARTS ORGANIZATION RESOURCES

Americans for the Arts
www.americansforthearts.org

Community Foundation
www.middlesexcountycf.org

Connecticut Arts Alliance
www.ctartsalliance.org

CT Department of Economic & Community Development
www.portal.ct.gov/DECD

Connecticut Humanities
www.cthumanities.org

Connecticut Valley Federation of Musicians
www.ctvalleymusicians.org

Connecticut Songwriters Assoc.
www.ctsongs.com

National Endowment for the ARTS
www.arts.gov

New England Foundation for the Arts
www.nefa.org

Shoreline Arts Alliance
www.shorelinearts.org

UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS
www.facebook.com/cityartsoffice

ART ON VIEW, LESSONS, PERFORMANCES & LIVE MUSIC @ COFFEE SHOPS, RESTAURANTS & RETAIL STORES

Fred Astaire Dance Studios
www.fredastaire.com/middletown

ION Restaurant
www.ionrestaurant.com

Klekolo World Coffee
www.klekolo.com

Laboca Restaurant
www.labocamexican.com

Middlesex Music Academy
www.middlesex-music-academy.com

Middletown Framing
www.middletownframing.com

Pamela Rose Specialty Hand Knits & Yarn
www.pamela-rose.com
Offering knit & crochet classes.

Perkatory Coffee Roasters
www.perkatoryroasters.com

R.J. Julia Bookstore
www.rjjulia.com

Stage Left Dance Studio
www.empowermovement.org

Tesorro Unique Gifts
www.tesorrouniquegifts.com

Mattabesett Canoe Club
www.canoecubmiddletown.com

Ursel's Web
www.urselsweb.com

ARTS & CULTURE OFFICE

City of Middletown
Room B-11, Municipal Bldg.
245 deKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457
www.middletownct.gov
arts@middletownct.gov
860-638-4510



MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

MCA Commissioners
Cassandra Day, Chair
Charlotte McCoid, Vice Chair
Pamela Steele, Secretary
Barbara Arafeh
John Basinger
David Bauer
Franca Biales
Julia Faraci
Lee Godburn
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Crystal Laffan

Poet Laureate 2019 - 2022
Cheryl Anne Hale

Music Ambassador 2019
Neely Bruce