

10 Things To Do This Weekend!

Thursday, March 31, 2011

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Home, sweet home

The Rhode Island Builders Association's annual Home Show takes place at the R.I. Convention Center this weekend.

With more than 400 exhibitors expected, the Home Show will offer cooking demonstrations, how-to seminars, children's activities and more. New this year is the Fine Arts Showcase with more

than 80 artisans from New England and New York. If you're in need of some relaxation on Thursday, Friday or Saturday, stop by the Rejuvenation Room between 6 and 9 p.m. for free chair massages and samples of wine, beer, cheese and chocolate.



LOCATION: R.I. Convention Center, 1 Sabin St. Providence. Thursday, March 31, and Friday, April 1, 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, April 2, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, April 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets: \$10 adults, \$8 seniors (65 and older); children younger than 13 get in free. Discounts available for AAA members. Note: prices are subject to change. For more information, visit the website.

WEBSITE: www.rihameshow.com.

CAPTION: The Home Show will be held this weekend at the R.I. Convention Center.

IMAGE COURTESY THE RHODE ISLAND BUILDERS ASSOCIATION



Dig into Newport Restaurant Week

Newport Restaurant Week continues through Sunday with restaurants in Newport and Bristol County offering three-course, prix-fixe menus and a smattering of food- and beverage-related events. Participating venues are providing three-course pre-fixe menus at \$16 for lunch and \$30 for dinner (not including beverages, gratuities or taxes). If you are looking for a more interactive experience, attend a Newport Cooks! cooking class on Indian kabobs and curries, attend a four-course chocolate and wine pairing event at the Gas Lamp Grille or visit Sakonnet Vineyards to be a winemaker for a day.

LOCATION: Restaurants throughout Newport and Bristol County. Thursday, March 31, through Sunday, April 3. Cost: varies by event. For more information, including a list of participating restaurants and events, visit the website or call (800) 976-5122.

WEBSITE: www.gonewportrestaurantweek.com.

CAPTION: Newport Restaurant Week wraps up this weekend.

IMAGE COURTESY NEWPORT RESTAURANT WEEK

The clan in Woonsocket

The Rat Pack: A Tribute will return to Stadium Theatre to perform this Saturday night after debuting in Woonsocket last year. The trio has traveled around the country, performing in venues in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Atlantic City and more. They bring to the stage their uncanny impersonations of Sammy Davis Jr., Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra. Saturday's concert will include performances of favorites such as "Come Fly with Me," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "That's Amore," "The Candy Man" and "Mr. Bojangles." The Rat Pack will be accompanied by a live orchestra.



LOCATION: Stadium Theatre, 28 Monument Square, Woonsocket. Saturday, April 2, 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$21 to \$36. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the website or call (401) 762-4545. Tickets are also available in person at the Stadium Theatre Box Office.

WEBSITE: www.stadiumtheatre.com.

CAPTION: The Rat Pack: A Tribute will perform this Saturday at Stadium Theatre.
IMAGE COURTESY STADIUM THEATRE

Competing for laughs

The Providence Public Library has introduced a Thursday night comedy series featuring local improvisational comedy troupe Long and the Short of It. On the last Thursday of the month, Long and the Short of It provides free comedic entertainment in the library's auditorium. This Thursday, Long and the Short of It will compete in a special improv comedy competition. Laughletics will pit Long and the Short of It against Bam!Cakes. The teams will go head to head in a series of improv games to see who can get the most laughs from the audience.



LOCATION: Providence Public Library, 150 Empire St., Providence.
Thursday, March 31, 7 to 8 p.m. Free and open to the public, although donations to support the library are encouraged. For more information, visit the website or call (401) 455-8000.

WEBSITE: www.provlib.org.

CAPTION: The Laughletics Improv Comedy Competition is on Thursday.
IMAGE COURTESY PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

A musical whodunit

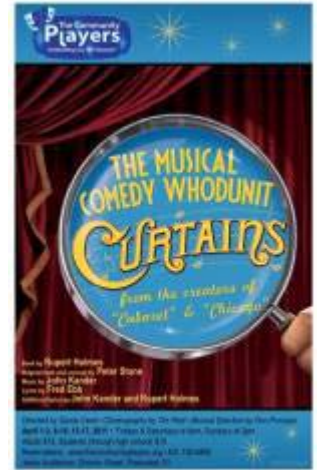
This weekend The Community Players will continue its 90th anniversary season with the Rhode Island premiere of "Curtains." The musical comedy is set in 1959 at Boston's Colonial Theatre, and follows a police detective as he tries to solve the case of murdered actress. "Curtains" was nominated for eight Tony Awards in 2007, including best musical, best book and best original score. The Community Players' production is directed by Sandy Cerel and choreographed by Timothy Reid; musical direction is by Ron Procopio. The show will run through April 17.

LOCATION: Jenks Auditorium, Division Street, Pawtucket. Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2, 8 p.m.; Sunday, April 3, 2 p.m. Tickets: \$18 adults, \$15 students through high school. For more information or to reserve tickets, visit the website or call (401) 726-6860.

WEBSITE: www.thecommunityplayers.org.

CAPTION: The Community Players presents "Curtains."

IMAGE COURTESY THE COMMUNITY PLAYERS



A Tribute to Louis Armstrong

The Rhode Island Philharmonic Pops Orchestra will be joined by trumpeter Byron Stripling for A Tribute to Louis Armstrong. Stripling is the artistic director of the Columbus Jazz Orchestra, in addition to leading his own quartet. For A Tribute to Louis Armstrong, Stripling will be joined by Terri Bailey on the piano, Robert Breithaupt on the drums and Jordan Hehl on the bass. Francisco Noya will conduct the concert, which will include songs such as "Don't You Know What It Means to Miss New Orleans?", "Alexander's Rag Time Band" and "Minnie the Moocher."



LOCATION: Veterans Memorial Auditorium Arts & Cultural Center, 1 Avenue of the Arts, Providence. Saturday, April 2, 8 to 10 p.m. Tickets: \$25 to \$75. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the website or call (401) 248-7000.

WEBSITE: www.riphil.org.

CAPTION: Byron Stripling will join the Philharmonic Pops Orchestra for A Tribute to Louis Armstrong.

IMAGE COURTESY RHODE ISLAND PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA & MUSIC SCHOOL



The rhapsody of the Bohemian Quartet

The Bohemian Quartet, a Providence-based string group, will present a free performance at Providence College on Saturday afternoon. The group, which was founded in 2005, is named for the original Bohemian Quartet that performed from 1891 to 1934 (known as the Czech Quartet after 1918). The new Bohemian Quartet is comprised of founder and violinist Stan Renard, violist Nancy Richardson, cellist Christine Harrington and bassist John DeBossu. Their repertoire includes traditional Gypsy music as well as Eastern-European folk music.

LOCATION: Smith Arts Center – Ryan Recital Hall, Providence College, 1 Cunningham Square, Providence. Saturday, April 2, 2 p.m. Free and open to the public.

WEBSITE: www.bohemianquartet.com.

CAPTION: The Bohemian Quartet will perform Saturday afternoon.
IMAGE COURTESY MIXED MEDIA

Collaboration '11 reception

The Jamestown Arts Center's fourth annual Collaboration show will be on exhibit from April 1 through April 28. Collaboration '11 is an open juried member's show of 12 by 12 inch works hung to form a mosaic. Artists include professionals, Rhode Island School of Design graduates, new artists and youth. This year, the show will be judged by Vanessa Faye Wurman, former owner of Station 29 Gallery in Newport. During an opening reception on Friday, awards will be given to first, second and third place winners in both adult and youth categories.



LOCATION: Jamestown Arts Center, 18 Valley St., Jamestown. Friday, April 1, 6 to 8 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (401) 222-0105.

WEBSITE: www.jamestownartscenter.org.

CAPTION: Students and Met School Arts Coordinator John Kotula discuss works for the Collaboration '11 show.
IMAGE COURTESY KATE PETRIE

A play within a play

The Contemporary Theater Co. will open the first production in its new space with the world premiere of Andy Hoover's "Composition." The comedic play is set in a theater where workers –played by Christine Cauchon, Stephen Grueb, Curt Larson and Jillian Thatcher – are preparing a stage for an upcoming play in which government agents are sent to guard a harpist (Laura Kennedy) and her philosopher uncle (Shawn Fennell). Jackie Barros, who recently starred in Mixed Magic Theatre's "When Mahalia Sings," and Sami Avigdor are cast as the agents.

LOCATION: The Contemporary Theater Co. Studio at South County Commons, 50 South County Commons Way, South Kingstown. Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2, 7 p.m. Tickets: \$15. For more information, including additional show times, or to purchase tickets, visit the website or call (401) 218-0282.

WEBSITE: www.thecontemporarytheater.com.

CAPTION: South Kingstown residents Laura Kennedy and Sami Avigdor in "Composition."
IMAGE COURTESY THE CONTEMPORARY THEATER CO.



The sounds of Rosecliff's past

Visit the historic Rosecliff mansion this weekend to experience a new audio tour that debuts on Saturday. The mansion was completed in 1902 for Tessie Oelrichs, Nevada silver heiress, and is now owned by The Preservation Society of Newport County. This season, visitors will be able to explore the mansion while listening to a tour that incorporates first-person stories from the family of Rosecliff's last private owners, conjuring the culture and romance of the Gilded Age. Also in the audio tour is the great-grandson of Stanford White, the mansion's architect.



LOCATION: Rosecliff, 548 Bellevue Ave., Newport. Saturday, April 2, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (last tour admission at 5 p.m.). Tickets: \$14 adults, \$5 youth. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the website or call (401) 847-1000.

WEBSITE: www.newportmansions.org.

CAPTION: Rosecliff begins its spring schedule with the debut of a new audio tour.
IMAGE COURTESY PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF NEWPORT COUNTY

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