

# ACAD NEWSLETTER

---

## FROM FIREWORKS TO POMEGRANATES: A GLOBAL CELEBRATION OF THE NEW YEAR

As we bid farewell to the old year and welcome in the new, people all around the world are gearing up to celebrate the start of a new year. From fireworks and champagne to pomegranates and temple bells, the ways in which cultures mark this special occasion are as diverse as the cultures themselves. In China, the New Year, or Spring Festival, falls between January 21st and February 20th. It's a time for families to come together, exchange gifts, and participate in traditional activities like setting off fireworks and decorating with red lanterns and paper cuttings. In Japan, the New Year, or "Shogatsu," is marked by the ringing of temple bells at midnight and the eating of special foods like osechi ryori, a type of bento box filled with symbolic dishes.

Iran also has a unique way of celebrating the New Year, known as "Nowruz." It falls on the spring equinox, typically around March 20th, and is a time for families to come together, clean their homes, and decorate with flowers and other natural decorations. One of the most iconic traditions of Nowruz is the "Haft-Seen," a tabletop display with seven symbolic items, including a mirror to symbolize reflection and a pomegranate to symbolize fertility.

These cultural celebrations are important because they allow us to connect with our heritage and traditions, and they also provide an opportunity to learn about and understand the customs and traditions of other cultures. As we ring in the new year, let's take a moment to appreciate the diversity of customs and traditions that make our world such a rich and vibrant place.



[www.auroraculture.org](http://www.auroraculture.org)



Become A Member of ACAD



## ACAD MEMEBERSHIP

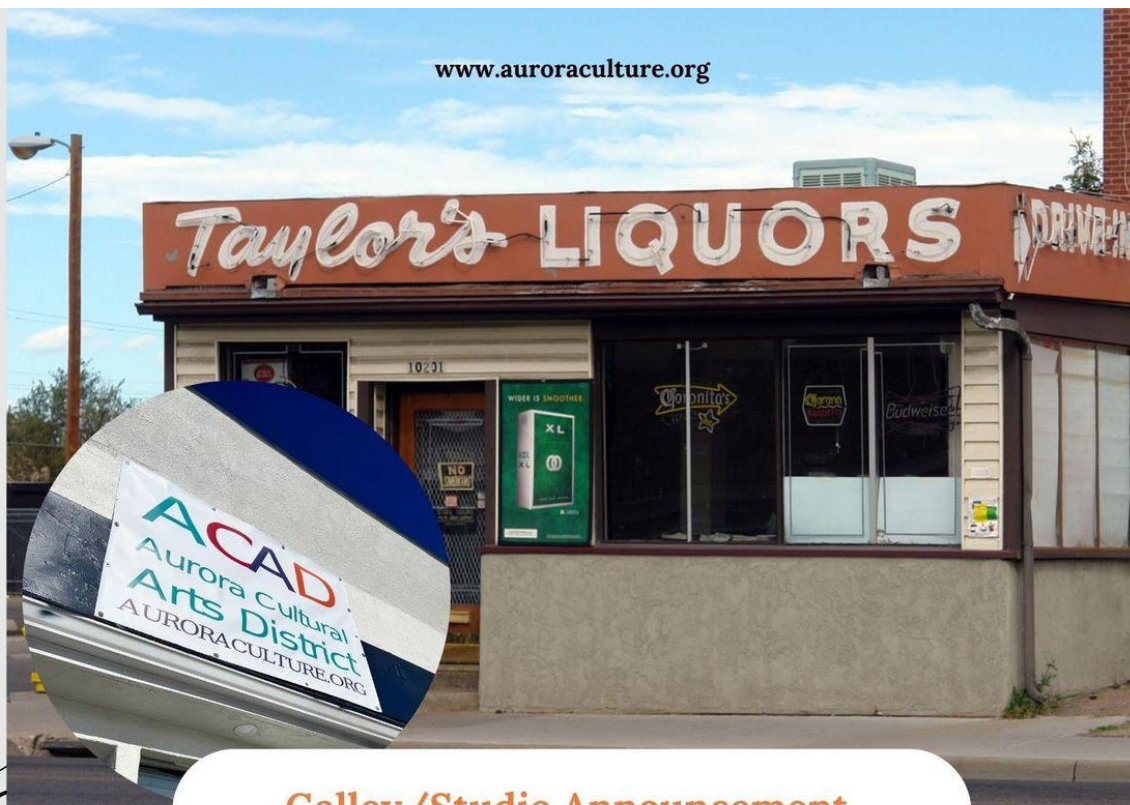
Becoming a member of the Aurora Cultural Arts District is a great opportunity to support and engage with the vibrant arts community in Aurora. As a member, you will have access to exclusive events and programming, as well as the opportunity to participate in the development of the district. Your membership helps to fund the promotion and presentation of local arts and culture, and ensures that the district remains a vibrant and thriving destination for the arts. We encourage you to join and be a part of this exciting and dynamic community.

## ACAD OPEN STUDIO

ACAD is proud to offer shared makers' space, art workshops, and exhibitions to the community. Our makers' space is equipped with tools and equipment for a variety of mediums and is available for rent on an hourly or daily basis. In addition to our makers' space, we also offer a variety of art workshops for all skill levels. From beginner to advanced, there is something for everyone. To learn more about these offerings or to book a space or workshop, contact ACAD today.







## Galley/Studio Announcement

The Aurora Cultural Arts District is excited to announce the transformation of Colorado's oldest liquor store, located at 10201 E Colfax Ave, into a working art gallery and studio. After overcoming numerous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and political difficulties, the small 850 sq. ft. space is now ready to host art workshops, and a gallery, and serve as a third space for artists in the community.

Despite the challenges of the past year, the Aurora Cultural Arts District remained determined to bring this exciting new project to life. The renovation of the old liquor store has been a labor of love, and we are thrilled to finally be able to share it with the community.

The new art gallery/studio will provide a much-needed space for artists in the Aurora area to showcase their work and collaborate with their peers. It will also serve as a hub for art workshops and other community events, helping to bring people together and foster a sense of connection and creativity.

We are currently working on finalizing the details and will announce an official opening date as soon as it is available. In the meantime, we invite everyone to stay tuned for updates and get involved in this exciting new venture. The Aurora Cultural Arts District is committed to supporting the local arts community and providing a space for creativity and connection in the heart of Aurora.



Get Involved

# January Events

# 2023



**DAVA (Downtown Aurora Visual Arts)**  
**January 2023 events;**



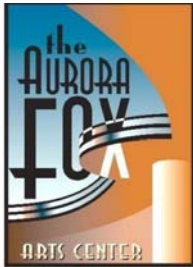
*Aurora Public Schools Art Educators' Exhibition*

**Opening Reception Friday, January 27th, 4 pm – 7 pm**

Please join us for the 21st annual Aurora Art Educators Show at DAVA. This exhibition features the professional artworks of Aurora Public Schools' art educators. See what inspires each teacher in their practice outside of the classroom.

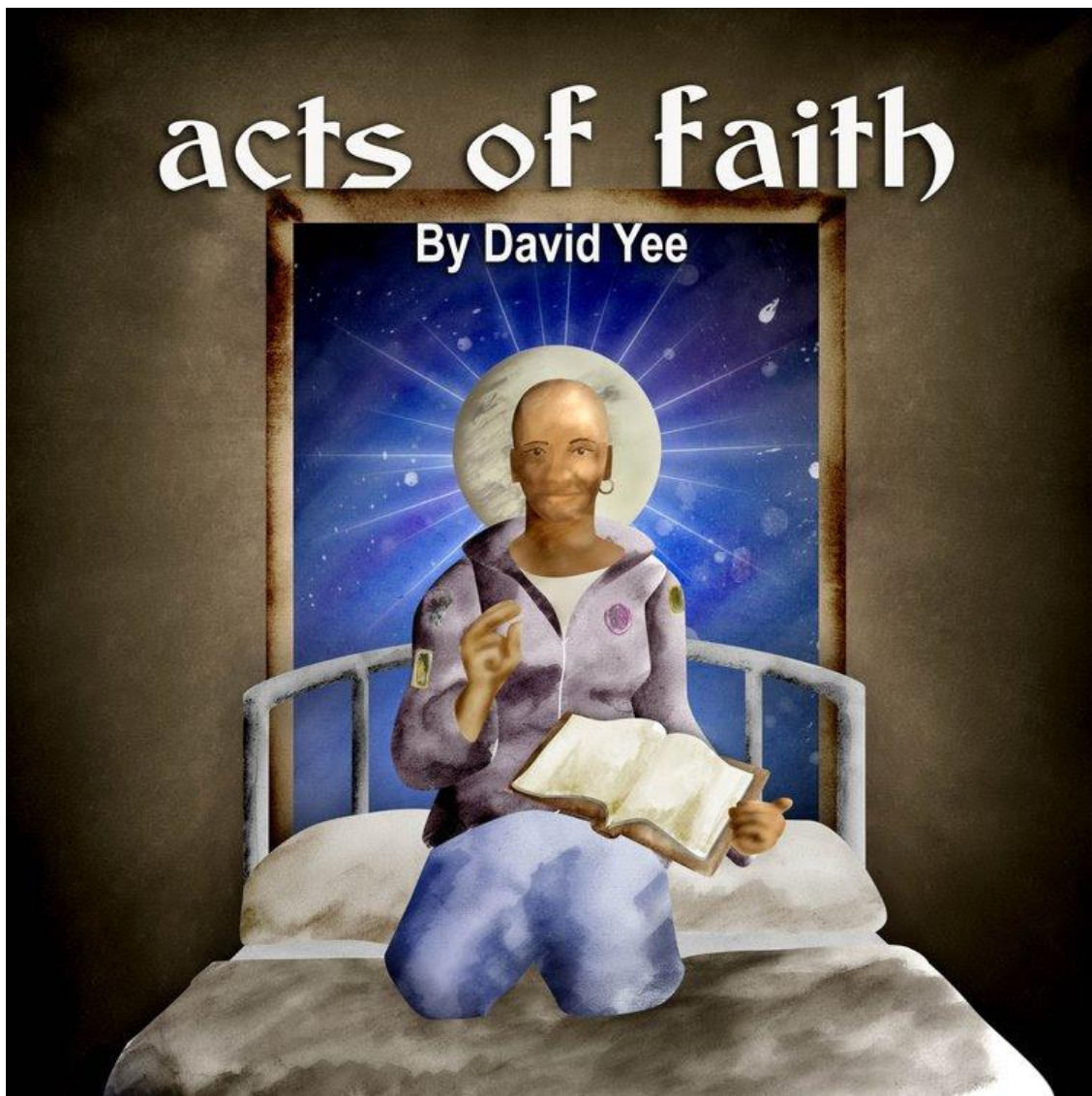
Gallery Hours: Monday – Friday, 10 am to 5 pm

***Open to the public from January 27<sup>th</sup> to February 24<sup>th</sup>.***



**The Aurora Fox, January 2023 events;**





## Acts of Faith

**January 20th- February 5th**

**\*U.S. Theatrical Premiere**

From the African Copperbelt to the back woods of Canada, “acts of faith” follows a young woman named Faith who gets mistaken for a prophet. When a revered religious leader attempts to take advantage of her plight, she begins using her ‘gift’ to right wrongs and punish the wicked. Far from home, Faith will come up against the ultimate test of her convictions in a final confrontation between sin and sainthood, morality, and godliness. Featuring renowned Colorado theater-maker Betty Hart, take in a story about the eternal struggle between good and evil, the disillusionment of youth, and the power of belief in this exciting and compelling premiere.

**Content Advisory:** None

**Aurora Fox Studio Theatre - Doors Open 30 Mins before the Performance**

**Runtime:** Approx. 100 minutes with no intermission



**The Peoples Building, November 2022 events;**



## [The Yale Alley Cats Colorado Concert](#)

**Friday, January 6, 2023, from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

Founded in 1943, the Yale Alley Cats are a world-renowned acapella group with a diverse repertoire, including everything from jazz standards to Motown, from timeless classics to contemporary chart-toppers. The group has released several

dozen albums and performed for public figures such as President Barack Obama, her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Martha Stewart, and Jay Leno, bringing refined tenor-bass harmonies and witty charm to destinations and events around the world.

Doors for this concert will open at 6:30 pm, with light refreshments available for purchase before the show and during intermission. Parking is free at the People's Building, and if you want to eat dinner in the area before or after the show, we are just moments away from the Stanley Marketplace food hall and other wonderful restaurants!



INSIGHT COLAB THEATRE PRESENTS:

# ***SAY MY NAME***

*An original musical*

BOOK AND DIRECTION BY PANG YUAN YUAN

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY DAVID NEHLS

THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM!!

**JANUARY 20-22**

People's Building Aurora

Tickets: [insightcolab.square.site](https://insightcolab.square.site)

## [Say My Name](#)

**Friday, January 20th-22nd Times Vary**

This show is suitable for ages 12+ and runs 75 minutes with no intermission. SAY MY NAME is a new musical that tells the story of Seung-Min, a Korean immigrant studying for her civics practice/naturalization test. On her path to

citizenship, she is haunted by ghosts of Asian women from history who plead with her to say their names, to help them release their souls to become citizens as well.

SAY MY NAME tickets will be at WILL CALL under your name on the night of your performance.

All performances are at THE PEOPLE'S BUILDING, [9995 E Colfax Ave., Aurora, CO 80010](#).

\*COVID-19 Notes: Audience members are not required to provide proof of vaccination, and masks are optional. We will continue to monitor Covid updates and reserve the right to change our protocols at any time.

THERE IS FREE PARKING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING.

ENTER THROUGH THE MAIN ENTRANCE ON COLFAX



**Vintage Theater Events, December 2022  
events;**

Duke  
Ellington's

# SOPHISTICATED LADIES



MUSIC BY Duke Ellington | BOOK BY Donald McKayle

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY  
Christopher Page-Sanders

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY Jodel Charles



Jan. 27 – Mar. 5, 2023 | [VintageTheatre.org](http://VintageTheatre.org)

[Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies](#)

January 27th - March 5th 2023



A Brassy, High-Energy Musical Revue!

Music by Duke Ellington, Book by Donald McKayle

Directed & Choreographed by Christopher Page-Sanders

Musical Direction by Jodel Charles

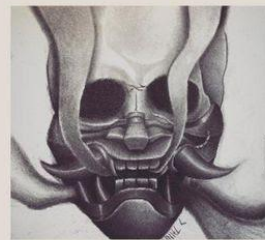
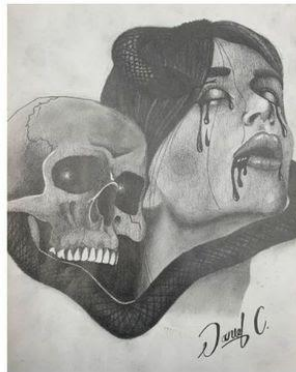
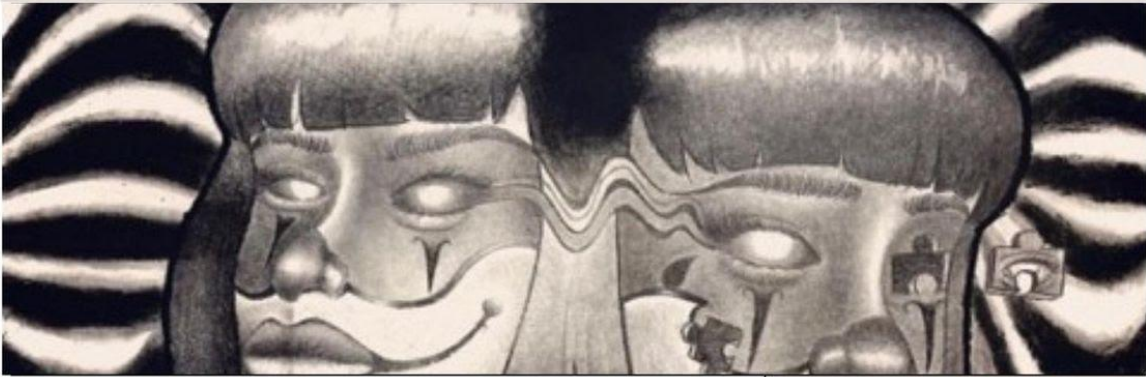
Playing in the Nickelson Auditorium

The musical legacy of The Duke is celebrated in this stylish and brassy retrospective, which has taken audiences and critics by storm worldwide.

Act I takes us from Ellington's early days at The Cotton Club through his widening acceptance abroad, while Act II explores the private man as captured in his music. It's a high-stepping salute inspired by the glamorous nightlife and sensuous highlife of a man who lived to love.



1ST JANUARY 2023 | @ACADARTISTS | 303-747-6917



Student of the month:  
**Daniel Coronel Reyes**  
Aurora West College  
Preparatory Academy



"The inspiration of my art is to show that we Chicanos, can make beautiful art pieces too. My goal is to be a future tattoo artist."

His work is being featured at Banh & Butter on Colfax.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

10201 E COLFAX AVE. AURORA CO 80010 | [WWW.AURORACULTURE.ORG](http://WWW.AURORACULTURE.ORG)



## Artist Call

The Aurora Cultural Arts District seeks original, 2-Dimensional artworks by artists from Aurora and the surrounding metro areas. The exhibition will showcase artistic excellence in the city by bringing cultural values and traditions passed down from previous generations. We seek diversity in materials, subject matter, and artists and the stories they are telling. The objective is to tell the untold stories of the many cultures and immigrants through visuals while enhancing Aurora's cultural identity.

The theme is "Cultural Reflections" to highlight our community's cultural heritage.

This initiative aims to diversify our public art collection by exhibiting and selling artwork from artists in all stages of their careers. The project is open to all artists residing in Aurora and the surrounding metro area. Although this initiative is open to all artists, special consideration shall be given to artists who identify as members of a Native American tribe or are a refugee.

