

ACAD NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This Black History Month, let's take a moment to celebrate the amazing Black artists and painters who have made such a profound impact on the world of art. From their unique perspectives and unapologetic styles to their powerful imagery and insightful commentary, they continue to inspire and captivate audiences around the world. Let's celebrate their achievements and continue to support Black artists in their creative endeavors.

From the vibrant expressionism of Jean-Michel Basquiat to the captivating works of Lois Mailou Jones, Black artists have pushed the boundaries of creativity and redefined what it means to make art. Their unique perspectives and unapologetic styles have inspired generations and continue to shape the cultural landscape to this day.

Kara Walker, a contemporary painter and installation artist best known for her thought-provoking explorations of race, gender, and sexuality. Her bold and unapologetic works challenge societal norms and ask important questions about the intersections of power, privilege, and identity. Her powerful imagery and insightful commentary continue to captivate audiences around the world.

Another artist who deserves recognition is Alma Thomas, a groundbreaking painter and teacher who was one of the first Black artists to have a solo show at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Her vibrant, colorful paintings are a celebration of life and nature, and her passion for color and form continues to inspire artists to this day.



www.auroraculture.org

Become A Member of ACAD



*Join
ACAD
today!*

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.



*Come
paint
and
create!*

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E. Colfax Art Gallery Grand Opening

Join us for the grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony of the East Colfax Art Gallery! Come visit **10201 E Colfax Ave 80010, on February 22nd, from 4- 6 PM** as we officially open the doors to this stunning new space, located on the East end of the Aurora Cultural Arts District at 10201 E. Colfax Ave. Be among the first to experience the art, meet the artists, and take part in this exciting celebration. We can't wait to see you there!

LEARN

Get Involved

February Events



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



Open Studio

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays

2:30 – 5:00 pm

Wednesdays

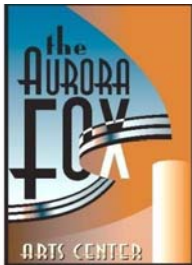
1:30 – 5:00 pm

(Summer hours from 1:30 – 4:30 pm)

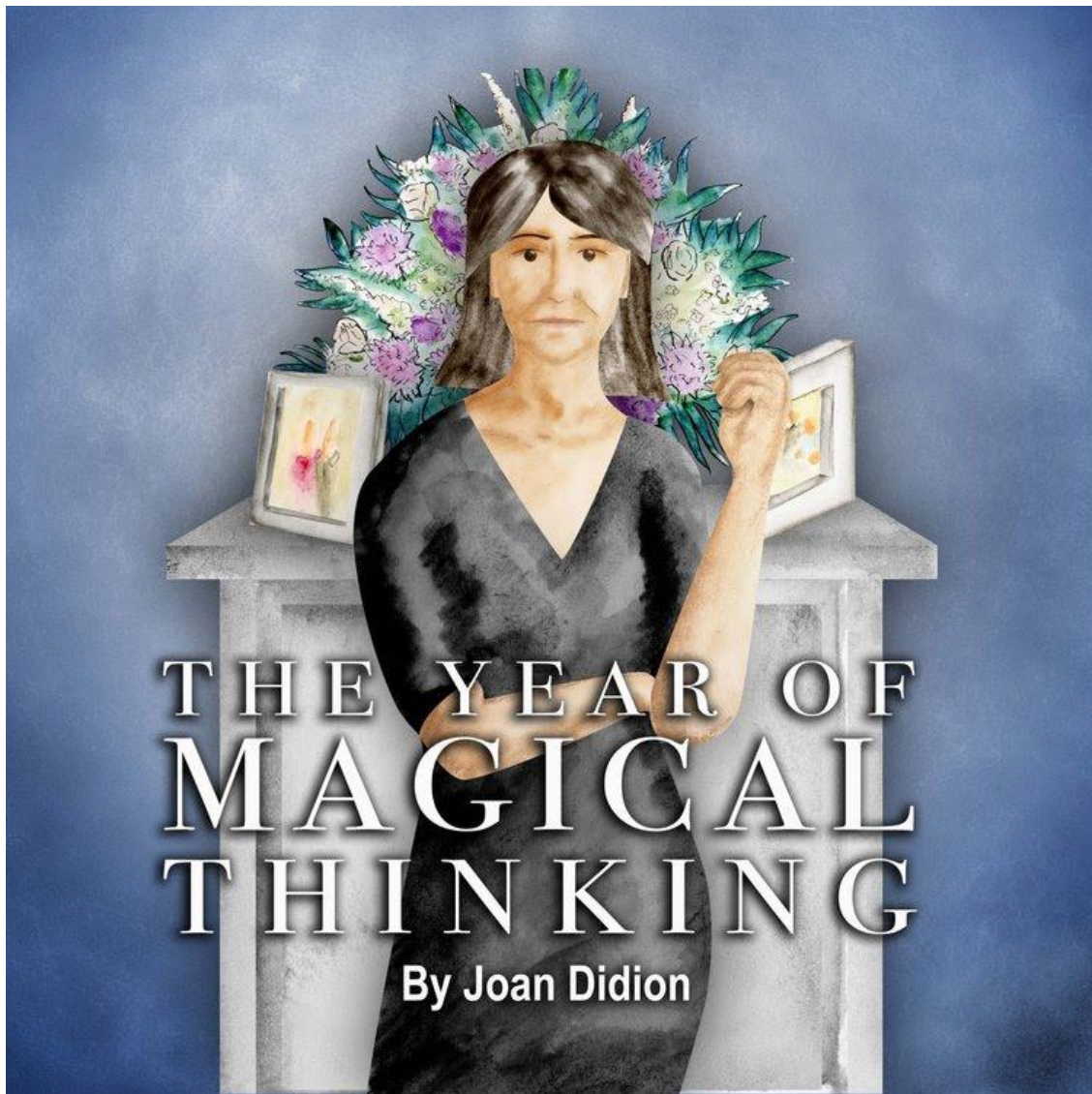
For youth ages 6-14

The Open Studio at DAVA is a rich playing field for experiential learning for youth ages 6-14. Students learn vital social skills as they problem-solve and finish projects successfully, collaborate in community arts projects, and participate in extra STEAM (science, technology, engineering, ART, and math) classes.

The Open Studio is a free program at DAVA. Parents fill out a one-time registration sheet, and then students are welcome to attend on a drop-in basis.



The Aurora Fox, February 2023 events;



[The Year of Magical Thinking](#)

February 10th - February 26th, 2023

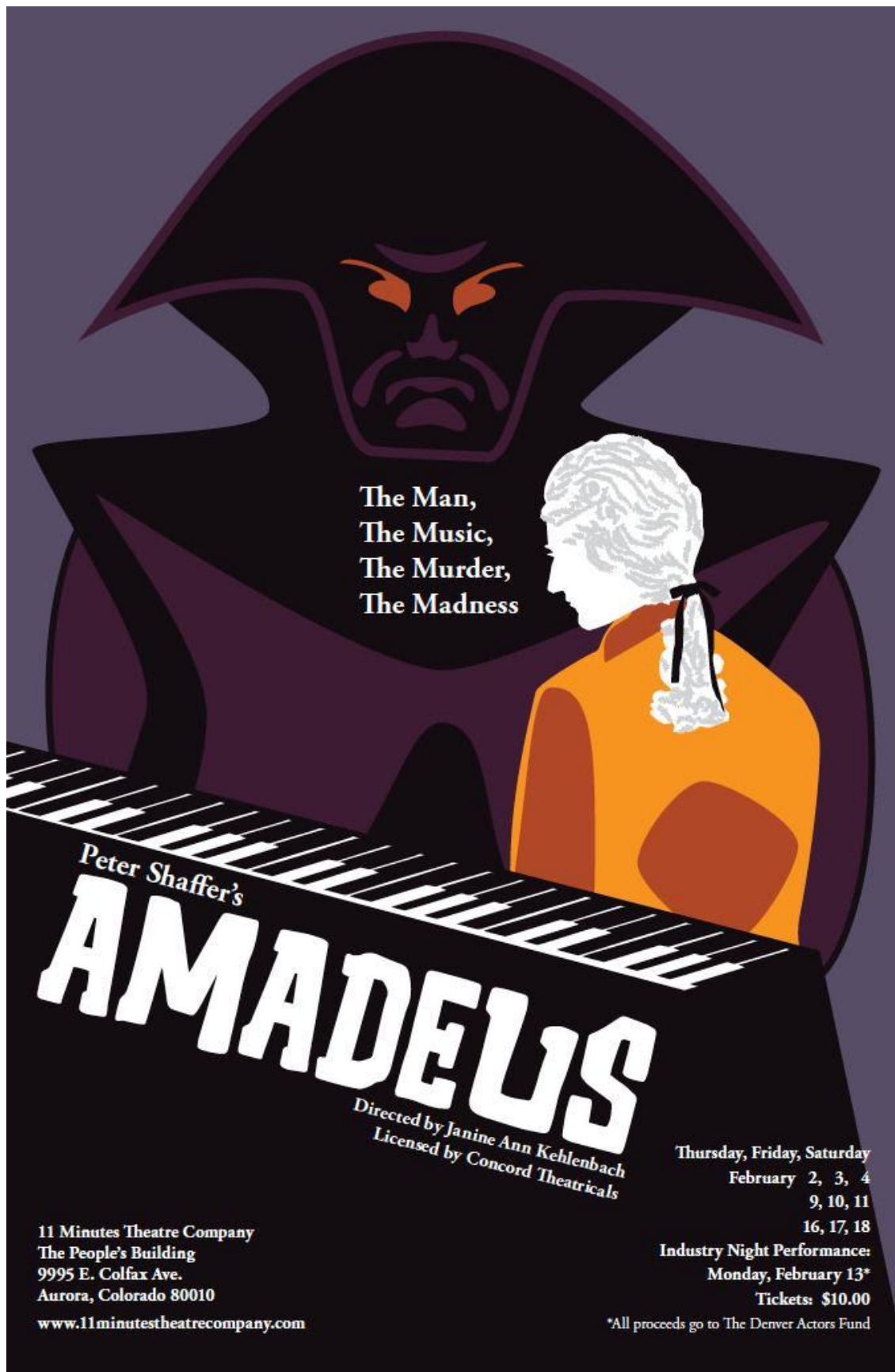
In this spellbinding adaptation of her award-winning bestselling memoir by the same name, Joan Didion transforms the sudden and unexpected loss of her husband and their only daughter into a powerful journey down the pathway to healing. The New York Times called Didion's story " ...an indelible portrait of loss and grief... a haunting portrait of a four-decade-long marriage." See Didion's story come to life right before your eyes in this stunning one-woman play starring Denver theatre legend **Billie McBride!**

Content Advisory: Adult Themes

Runtime: Approx. 90 minutes



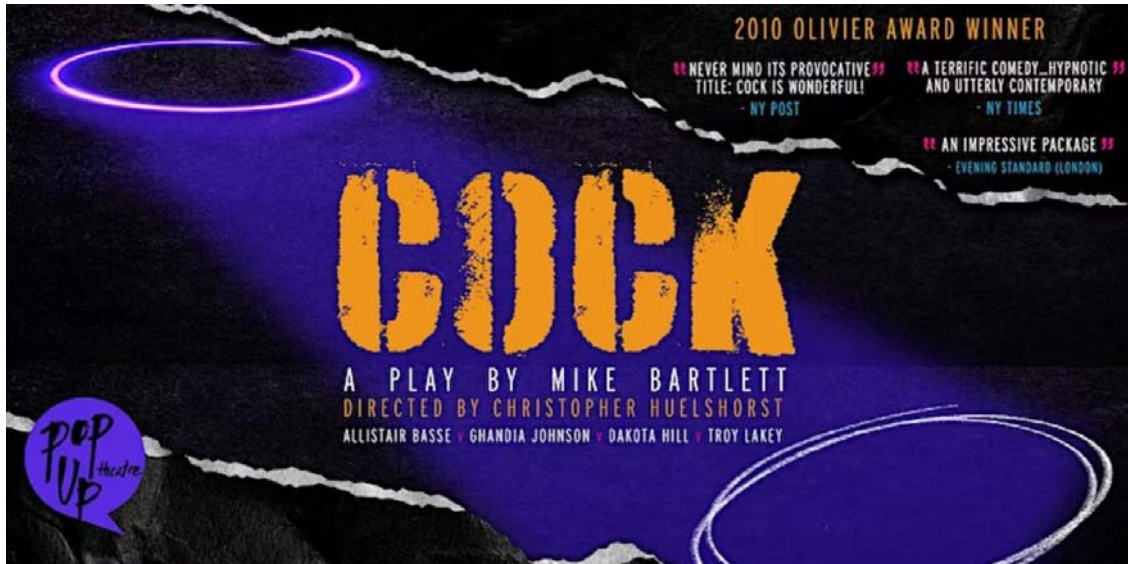
The Peoples Building, February 2023 events;



[Amadeus by Peter Shaffer](#)

February 2nd- 18th, 2023, 7:30- 9:30 PM

The music, the man, the murder, the madness. This amazing cast brings to life a story that has fascinated people for decades.



Cock: A Play by Mike Bartlett

February 24th-26th times vary

THE STORY: John has been in a stable relationship with his boyfriend for several years. But, when he takes a break, he accidentally falls in love with a woman. Torn between the two, filled with guilt and conflicting emotions, he doesn't know which way to turn. His boyfriend is willing to wait for him to make a decision, but so is his girlfriend. And both are prepared to fight to keep him. As the pressure mounts, a dinner with both parties is arranged, and everyone wants to know. Who is John? What is he? And what will his decision be? A comic discussion of identity and sexuality, the play is specified to be performed with no props or set, so the focus is all on the drama of the situation.



**The E. Colfax Art Gallery,
February 2023 events;**

**DOOR HANGER DIY
PAINTING WORKSHOP**

SWEETHEARTS
-EXAMPLE ONLY FINISHED PRODUCT NOT FOR SALE

LOVE TRUCK
-EXAMPLE ONLY FINISHED PRODUCT NOT FOR SALE

FEBRUARY 10-12 & 17-19
10201 E COLFAX AVE

Door Hanger Paint Workshop

February 10th-19th times vary

Join us for a DIY door decor painting workshop. Select one of the four hand-cut wood templates and pick a date! We can't wait to see you and your friends. All proceeds go to support the Aurora Cultural Arts District and free events like Colfax Art Jams.



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

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.

The Roommate



WRITTEN BY Jen Silverman
DIRECTED BY Bernie Cardell



Jan. 13 – Feb. 19, 2023 | VintageTheatre.org

[The Roommate](#)

January 13th - February 19th 2023

Sharon, in her mid-fifties, is recently divorced and needs a roommate to share her Iowa home. Robyn, also in her mid-fifties, needs a place to hide and a chance to start over. But as Sharon begins to uncover Robyn's secrets, they encourage her deep-seated desire to transform her life completely. A dark comedy about what it takes to re-route your life—and what happens when the wheels come off.





Student of the Month:

Margie Osorio Barrios

Aurora Central High School

Since I was a little girl, my mother has been collecting porcelain dolls and placing them around the house; at one point there was even a doll on a swing hanging above my bed and all of my friends would make comments about it when they came over. I always wondered why she loved these dolls so much, now that I'm older I realize that she may have been completing a childhood wish; she grew up in a poor family in Mexico, and having dolls like these was a luxury they couldn't afford.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON HOW TO GET IN TOUCH



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.

