SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART

See what you think.

sjmusart.org

Friday, October 7, 2016
This offer is to the SVCA members: Winchester Mystery House Candlelight Tours ten nights in October (October 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 28th through 31st).

Adults: $38.00 per person (special discount from $49.00)

Special Candlelight Tours begin at 7:00 p.m. through 12:00 a.m. and depart every 10 minutes through the evening.

How to get tickets: email Nathan Emmett - nathan@winchestermysteryhouse.com.

Ticket availability is on a first come first serve basis, and tickets have limited availability.

Campo di Bocce of Fremont (formerly City Beach) is Accepting

We're Hiring - Request an Interview Today

Do you, or someone you know, enjoy bocce, wine and food? We're accepting applications for all positions at Campo di Bocce of Fremont and looking for strong team players to help us entertain our guests. All positions including front desk, managers, event staff, bartenders, service staff, kitchen crew, etc. are available.

Campbell’s HERITAGE THEATRE Announces 2016-2017 Season Lineup

Riding the momentum of last season’s sold-out performances, Campbell’s Heritage Theatre is adding a seventh show to its 2016-2017 (13th) season lineup. The new season opens Saturday, October 22, with the pure country sounds of singer/songwriter SAMMY KERSHAW. Showcasing his first album in four years, Better Than I Used To Be, Kershaw’s longtime fans will be reminded of some of his early music, including the album Haunted Heart and his string of hits that started in 1991 with “Cadillac Style.”

Multi-Grammy and American Music Award winners, THE POINTER SISTERS grace the stage on Friday, November 4. One of the most dynamic female singing groups of all time, the pop music icons’ legendary list of chart-toppers includes “Fire,” “Slow Hand,” “Yes, We Can, Can,” “Jump (For My Love),” and “I’m So Excited.”
October is packed with fun things to do. Here are just a few highlights for the month, offered by Discover Silicon Valley magazine. See our October issue for more or, for a full guide to the area, visit dineshopplay.com.

FESTIVALS & SHOWS

Get into Elizabethan-era spirit at the annual NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE (weekends thru Oct 16). This vibrant recreation of a harvest fair in Hollister includes costumed performers, strolling musicians, full-contact jousting, sword fighting acts, an authentic marketplace, a variety of foods and drinks, and even a Celtic Rock Concert Series held Saturday evenings. (norcalrenfaire.com)

Ditch the cooler weather and cozy up to some great films at several film festivals. The SILICON VALLEY AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL (Oct 14-16) is the only film festival in California exclusively focused on films made by African filmmakers. (svaff.org) • The SAN JOSE INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL (Oct 20-23) features over 175 world-class, short-form films by filmmakers from all around the world, with underwater adventures being this year’s theme. (sjsff.com) • And the SILICON VALLEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL (Oct 27-Nov 20) shines a spotlight on Jewish culture, traditions and communities through renowned guest lecturers, as well as screenings of comedies, dramas, shorts and documentaries from around the world. (svjff.org)

THEATER & MUSICALS

Satisfy your craving for theater with one of many options. For just a sampling, San Jose’s CITY LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY presents Other Desert Cities (thru Oct 23), a dark play involving a family with differing political views and a long-held family secret, while SAN JOSE STAGE takes us to a little-known episode of genocide that took place in the early 20th century in Namibia in We Are Proud to Present (thru Oct 23). On the lighter side, THEATREWORKS stages Outside Mullingar (Oct 5-20), a wry and wondrous romantic comedy with a dark Irish twist by John Patrick Shanley of Moonstruck and Doubt, while SAN JOSE STAGE presents the classic Rocky Horror Show (Oct 27-Nov 5); audience members are encouraged to come in costume, and all five Midnight Shows will feature Rocky Horror Costume Contests.

For a difference theater experience altogether, San Francisco-based WE PLAYERS offers a site-integrated production of Shakespeare’s Romeo & Juliet (Oct 6-16) on the grounds of Villa Montalvo; boundaries are blurred as audience members literally join the actors while the action unfolds, following them to various locations throughout the grounds.

LIVE MUSIC

Listen to tunes for a cause at the BRIDGE SCHOOL BENEFIT CONCERT (Oct 22-23). For 30 years Neil and Pegi Young have enlisted their talented musician friends to perform at this well-loved all-acoustic charity event to benefit the Bridge School in Mountain View, a leader in the education of children with severe speech and physical ailments. This year’s headliners include Metallica, Dave Matthews, Willie Nelson, Norah Jones, Cage the Elephant and more. (bridgeschool.org/concert) Other concert highlights in October include PENTATONIX (Oct 17 at the SAP Center); and KEIKO MATSUI (Oct 19 at Montalvo Arts Center).

SEASONAL EVENTS

It’s that time of the year to get spooked. What better place to do so than at the Winchester Mystery House? In a chilling and Gothic atmosphere, the HALLOWEEN CANDLELIGHT TOURS (Oct 7-31) leave guests with just a flickering candlelight and their imagination to guide them through the storied 160-room home (Candlelight Tours). At California’s Great America, the spectacular HALLOWEEN HAUNT (Fri-Sun thru Oct 30) also promises to instill fear with its shocking experiences and haunted mazes (Halloween Haunt).

FAMILY FUN

For those with children in tow, San Jose’s HAPPY HOLLOW PARK & ZOO has just added a new exhibit: a pair of red pandas with a beautiful new home, complete with a climate controlled indoor area, lots of yummy bamboo, and misters to cool them off. (hhpz.org)

Karen Gastaldo
Calendar Editor
Discover Magazine
www.dineshopplay.com
San Jose Bars: Alternative Spots That Offer More Than Drinks

By Ikaika Shiveley

Hitting the town may seem like a good idea, but school is back in session and many a college student is out there looking to get their drink on. Tired of “woo-girls” and frat boys filling up the clubs? These four bars are just a handful of alternative spots around San Jose with a little more to offer than just alcohol.

AFK Gamer Lounge – 136 W Santa Clara St.

It’s never been a better time to be a geek, as mainstream society has been embracing nerdiness for the last decade. AFK Gamer Lounge is just one example of the nightlife community jumping on an opportunity, colliding the gaming industry with alcohol. Console game lounges are available for an hourly rate of $10, which offer swapable games — both classics and the bestselling hits of today — upon the request of servers. If PC gaming is more down your alley, there’s a large LAN server lounge with over 50 gaming PCs charging $3 an hour, or $12 for three hours. AFK also has its fair share of tabletop games, as well as Giant Jenga, located at the outside patio. Events like Tabletop Taco Tuesdays and tournaments for games like Dota 2, Hearthstone, and Overwatch are just a few ways to bring out your inner geek.

Cinebar – 69 E San Fernando St.

Sometimes you don’t need state of the art facilities to have a good time, and Cinebar proves that. Located in the heart of Downtown on San Fernando street, this movie-centric dive bar welcomes all film lovers. Priding itself as a cinephile’s refuge, the Cinebar has a wide array of artwork and movie memorabilia; including the leg lamp from “A Christmas Story” located behind the bar counter. Aside from the low-priced drinks, visitors can expect to see films — classics and more modern offerings — played on televisions throughout the bar; giving onscreen fun to non-sports fans. Whether you are a movie lover or not, Cinebar is a great spot to relax and take up conversations with strangers.

7 Stars Bar and Grill – 398 S Bascom Ave.

Travel to a bar in a galaxy far, far away with one of the most atmospheric locations in San Jose. Even though it’s only been open a few years, 7 Stars Bar and Grill has become a prime landing zone for Star Wars fandom and alcohol consumers alike. From original artwork to X-wings, TIE interceptors, and Boba Fett’s Slave I hanging above, there’s no denying the owners’ love for the films. Accentuating the overhead battle is a black ceiling with stars and galaxy formations painted across the bar. It is clear that the force is strong with this bar, and so are the drinks. From-Vader themed cocktails to the frothy blue bantha milk, the beverages are a celebratory homage for any Star Wars fan. Aside from the typical bar activities such as pool and darts, 7 Stars Bar and Grill also have Rock Band karaoke for the more outgoing patrons. Whether you’re here just for a quick bite or a night of fun, 7 Stars Bar and Grill is a welcoming place for anyone to call home.

Stanley’s Sports Bar – 1500 S 10th St.

Why go to a bar to watch a television when you can experience the thrills of hockey firsthand? Located above the rink of Sharks Ice, Stanley’s Sports Bar embraces all things hockey — from the decor to live sports. Overlooking the rink, customers can enjoy league tournament games and occasionally watch the Sharks play during their practice sessions. The bar itself has a very homey vibe, resembling a winter cabin with its pinewood paneled along the walls and ceiling. Go Sharks!
DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS AT THE

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MONDAY
OCTOBER 24TH
7-10PM

Espolòn Cocktails

170 S Market St.
San Jose, CA 95113
Dining with Bella!

A Week In Las Vegas

This past month we were lucky enough to spend nine days in Las Vegas. We stayed at the Wynn, in a Parlor Suite, which was a truly lovely set of rooms and a fabulous experience. While there, we enjoyed several venues I’m going to discuss with you this month.

First up, we saw the Michael Jackson One show (Cirque Du Soleil). This is unlike every other Cirque show I’ve seen and I’ve seen them all. If you are a Michael Jackson fan, go. You’ll see phenomenal acts and hear many of his greatest hits from childhood through his adult career. At one point he joins the cast via hologram, but you won’t know the difference from a live performance. The cast interacts with him and he interacts with them. I can’t say enough good about this show. You can take both food and drink into the show, and alcohol is permitted and even highly encouraged by our particular bartender. In all seriousness, this is a food and beverage article, so let’s talk restaurants.

We took reservations at the Foundation Club in Mandalay Bay. Located high above the Mandalay Towers (60th floor). The Foundation Room is a sister club to the Capital Club of San Jose, so if you’re a member you already know what to expect as far as service and food quality. We entered a fairly dark bar at first where we were greeted by a very friendly bartender. We ordered a Martini and a glass of Chardonnay. The martini was done to perfection. The bar area is, like I said, on the dark side, with both dark woods and East Indian touches. It was beautifully appointed. We chose to have our cocktails on the balcony while we waited for our appetizer. The balcony overlooks the entire strip, since you are 60 floors up, you can see so much. There is ample comfortable seating, but we never sat, we were too busy looking at the sights. We headed back in to our crab cake appetizers. Now, some crab cakes are built with potatoes, but these were simply crab. They were delicious. I recommend them highly.

We eventually headed to the dining room. Which is a fairly long room, ending in an L shaped alcove. We were sat along the back wall, but really there isn’t a bad seat in the house. Our waiter was knowledgeable about the menu, ingredients and wine pairings. I won’t go into too much detail because I want you to be able to draw your own conclusions, but the food was delicious, the attention to detail and the customer service were all wonderful. If you go, reserve one of the seats next to the windows. You’ll want to take a casual stroll around the balcony and enjoy the views while you wait for your entree.

One cannot stay at the Wynn without enjoying a meal at the SW steakhouse. Be aware this is not a budget venue and you’ll spend a good amount for your food and beverages. Having said that, your every whim is catered to by a bevy of wait staff and bussers. Clearly if you are a carnivore, you are going to want the steak. I had the filet and it was done to perfection for me. It was medium, meaning done on the outside, but pink in the middle, going to red at the center. It was a melt in your mouth experience. I added a lobster tail, which was so large I had to have help to finish it from other folks at the table. You’ll want to order the black truffle creamed corn, which is truly amazing. One of our guests had the chili rubbed double cut ribeye. While I was too stuffed to enjoy another bite, I understand from the rest of the table that it is, by far, the best thing on the menu. Since you are just inside the lake of dreams, every once in a while you’ll see the show outside. Make sure if you go that you reserve a table with a view, it’s amazing.

Another venue within the Wynn that you’ll want to visit is Wing Lei. It’s a beautiful Chinese restaurant with Cantonese, Shanghai and Sichuan specialties, along with an excellent wait staff. They have several specialty drinks at the bar you’ll want to review and order based on your particular tastes. As for dinner, we ordered the Shrimp toast, Pan Seared Pot Stickers and the Garlic Shrimp Rolls for appetizers. I couldn’t be more complimentary on the presentation or the taste. After the appetizer I had the Velvet Egg Wonton Soup, which comes for two people so I shared it with the person sitting next to me. You can order your entree for yourself or simply order family style. We chose to order separately, except for the Imperial Peking Duck, which is carved tableside with a choice of Steamed Buns or Mandarin Crêpes Cucumber, Scallions, Hoisin Sauce. It was crispy and delicious. When served, they first bring the full duck out, with a napkin discretely placed over the head, then they take it away, carve and serve it.

For my entree I ordered the Mu Shu pork. The great thing here is that they prepare it for you, again, tableside, so you don’t have to do any of the work, just enjoy the meal.

Finally, I have to suggest this, though people with acrophobia may not want to go. The High Roller at the LINQ is a 515 foot Ferris Wheel with enclosed “cars” that accommodate 40 people at a time. I’m not one for heights. Not at all. Yet I would not have missed this for the world. Yes, you can take cocktails in, or simply reserve one with bottle service. It takes a full half hour to make the rounds. Though I do have to admit, there are television screens around the top of the car and the gentlemen that speaks to you can be annoying after a bit. The music they play, however, is a delight. We took ours at sunset so that by the time we reached the pinnacle it was dark outside and the lights of the strip were phenomenal. Might I suggest that afterwards, a great place to unwind is the Chandelier Bar at the Cosmopolitan. Order the Cosmo at the bar and spend some time talking about your adventure!

Chao Bella!!!
Glass Pumpkin Festival
October 7th-9th, Santana Row Park
Join us for the 2nd annual glass pumpkin patch at Santana Row and experience the MAGIC of glass! Stroll through thousands of hand-blown glass pumpkins crafted by Bay Area Glass Institute artists and renowned glass artisans from around the country. They are perfect for your fall decorations and make for beautiful display pieces year-round. Delight in an assortment of colors and sizes with prices to fit every budget. This is a once-a-year event, so come early and find the perfect glass pumpkin. This special event will take place in Santana Row Park, across from Left Bank Brasserie. Hours for the Glass Pumpkin Festival are:
- Friday, October 7th: 4p.m.-8p.m.
- Saturday, October 8th: 10a.m.-8p.m.
- Sunday, October 9th: 10a.m.-6p.m.

Live Weekend Entertainment
Friday evenings beginning at 5p.m.
Saturday’s beginning at 12p.m.
Sunday’s beginning at 12p.m.
Live entertainment can be found in the Oak Tree Lounge (in front of Pinkberry or Santana Row Park (near the large chess board). Live entertainment is subject to change, and weather permitted. For a complete list of weekend entertainment available, contact the Santana Row Concierge Center at 408.551.4611.

Mommy and Me On The Row
Halloween Family Fest
October 25, 10a.m.-Noon
No tricks, just great treats! Wear your costume and trick-or-treat on The Row! Plus, enjoy pumpkin decorating, Halloween photos and live entertainment! Meet us in Park Valencia at 10am for a FREE trick-or-treat bag and a list of participating Trick-or-Treat locations! This is a free event that is open to the public.

Paint The Row Pink: A Wine Stroll in Partnership with the San Francisco 49ers
October 20th, 6p.m.-9p.m.
Join us along with the San Francisco 49ers Foundation as we Paint The Row Pink! Enjoy a stroll around The Row with wine & hard cider tastings inside of select shops & restaurants. Sourdough Sam and the San Francisco 49ers Gold Rush Cheerleaders will be on-site to kick-off the festivities! Tickets will be sold for $40 and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society’s Breast Cancer Programs. Tickets are on-sale now at SantanaRow.com or inside of the Santana Row Concierge for cash-only.

Save the Date:
Santana Row’s 15th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony
Tuesday, November 15th
5p.m.-9p.m.
Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival
World Pumpkin Capital Celebrates The Great Gourd
46th Annual Event
Oct. 15-16, 2016, 9am–5pm • Main Street, Half Moon Bay, CA

South FIRST FRIDAYS Art Walk + Street Mrkt
a DIY nighttime urban faire First Fridays 7pm–11pm
SoFA District (& beyond) downtown San Jose

The South FIRST FRIDAY’s art walk is a self-guided, nighttime tour through galleries, museums, and independent creative businesses featuring eclectic art exhibitions and special performances.

In addition to the Art Walk is the STRET MRKT a nighttime urban faire featuring 40+ artists, creative vendors, music, craft brews and gourmet food trucks out on South First Street in the SoFA District. All Art Walk venues and Street Mrkt are FREE admission & open to the public.

All Art Walk venues and Street Mrkt are FREE admission & open to the public.

$39 -- Cupertino: Moscow Ballet 'Nutcracker'*

By Erin Roth

Moscow Ballet’s “Great Russian Nutcracker” comes to the San Jose area for one day only, and Travelzoo members save up to 20% on tickets. Choose from two performances at the Flint Center in Cupertino on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. These price levels are available:

- $39 (reg. $48) ... Rear Orchestra
- $56 (reg. $68) ... Mid Orchestra
- $70 (reg. $88) ... Front and Mid Orchestra

With handmade costumes and classical choreography, "Great Russian Nutcracker" pays homage to the original ballet, first danced in 19th-century Russia to Tchaikovsky's beloved score. The production has been performed in cities across the U.S. for more than 20 years. The New York Times praises the troupe's "elegant" and "expansive" dancing; DC Metro Theater Arts says the backdrops are "gorgeously illustrated," and the costume design is “fantastic” and "divinely imaginative."

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Valley Access E-Magazine (VAM) svconcierge@mindspring.com

Deadline to submit articles for E-Magazine is the last Friday of the month. Note: Articles and special dates appearing in the VAM are subject to change without notice.

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Membership includes
One complementary beverage and raffle coupon for each member and one guest upon check-in at applicable events.

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The organizers may film and photograph the event. These materials will be used online and offline to promote Silicon Valley Concierge Association and to advertise future events. By attending the event you agree to appear in such films and photographs.

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