

Washington State's 2008 Arts Calendar: Bursting with Color and Vitality

JANUARY

Suquamish Museum

Running through 2008

Suquamish, WA

Take a short trip on Washington State's scenic ferry service from Seattle to Bainbridge Island. The Suquamish Museum chronicles the history, art and culture of the Suquamish Indian tribe, inhabitants in the Northwest for 15,000 years. Current exhibits include: "The Eyes of Chief Seattle," "Old-Man-House, the People, and Their Way of Life" and "Come Forth Laughing, Voices of the Suquamish People," which chronicle the unique culture and heritage of the area's Native American people.

www.suquamish.nsn.us/museum

Burke Museum

January 26-June 8

Seattle, WA

Located on the park-like University of Washington campus, the Burke Museum features "Peoples of the Plateau: the Indian Photographs of Lee Moorhouse, 1898-1915," which captures the Native American experience in the interior Northwest during the transition from prairie life to modern times.

www.washington.edu/burkemuseum



Makah Days Festival on Makah Indian Reservation

Credit: Washington State Tourism, Port of Seattle/Don Wilson

FEBRUARY

Antique & Collectible Show

February 9-10

Ocean Shores, WA

Popular and scenic Ocean Shores, with more than six miles of serene ocean beaches, is home to the 6th annual Antique & Collectible Show. If the 50 booths of vintage collectibles aren't enough, take a stroll along the beautiful beaches, sample tasty seafood or discover 23 miles of interconnecting freshwater lakes and canals.

<http://oceanshoresACT.com>

Quilt Show at the Grays Harbor Fairgrounds

February 16-17

Grays Harbor, WA

Snow capped Olympic Mountains, beautiful Pacific beaches and awe-inspiring rain forests await quilters of all experience levels. This annual event features a non-judged quilt display and retreat. Packages available through Microtel Inn.

<http://ghcfairgrounds.com>

Yakama Nation Museum and Cultural Heritage Center

Ongoing

Yakima, WA

The Yakima Valley is home to some of the state's finest wineries and outstanding geographic beauty. It is also home to the

Yakama Nation tribe, a community with a rich state history. The Yakama Nation Museum is one of the oldest Native American Museums in the United States. The museum features many cultural and arts events all year long that celebrate the Yakama Nation tribe. When in wine country, give this cultural treasure a visit. www.yakamamuseum.com/showpage.php?pageid=904f27cb

Washington Folk Arts, Northwest Heritage Tours

Ongoing

Unique CD-based travel tour companion that offers travelers narrated audio guides, including traditional music and stories, from local residents along various routes through Washington State <http://www.washingtonfolkarts.com>

Chihuly Glass Cell Phone Tour

Ongoing

Tacoma, WA

The port city of Tacoma has experienced a renaissance over the past several years, anchored by its museum district and the state's first cell-phone walking tour. A bustling restaurant scene and revitalized downtown provide the perfect backdrop for this innovative new tour. It allows users to learn more about native son Dale Chihuly's artwork throughout the district.

www.tacomaartmuseum.org/page.asp?view=7851

Wintergrass Bluegrass Festival

February 21-24

Tacoma, WA

Music lovers and musicians by the hundreds descend upon historic downtown Tacoma for this bluegrass music festival. While there are plenty of live performances from award winning bands, attendees can expect spontaneous and inspired jam sessions, too. The annual event hosts workshops for aspiring performers and music lovers alike.

www.acousticsound.org

Sewing and Stitchery Expo

February 28-March 2

Puyallup, WA

The quiet splendor of picturesque Mt. Rainier presides over Puyallup, Washington, home of the Sewing and Stitchery Expo. The largest, most comprehensive consumer education and trade event for the sewing industry in the United States, the expo features hundreds of exhibits and seminars and hosts celebrity speakers. While in town, try to visit the Meeker Mansion, home to the town's first mayor, which is listed on the National Historic Register.

www.sewexpo.com/expo/index.html

MARCH



Lynden Craft & Antique Show

March 13-15

Lynden, WA

This unique, Dutch-inspired village celebrates the 21st anniversary of this favorite community event. While visitors are experiencing its small town hospitality, they have the opportunity to buy unique, hand-made treasures enhanced by an old-fashioned community market feel.

www.lyndencraftantiqueshow.com

Beachcombers Driftwood Show

March 15-16

Grayland, WA

Ocean spray and sandy beaches heighten the experience of discovery during this annual show. Miles of ocean beaches can yield hand blown

Yakima Valley Museum

Credit: Washington State Tourism, Port of Seattle/Don Wilson

Japanese glass floats and driftwood, or treasures of another kind can be found at the Beachcombers Driftwood Show. The program includes a driftwood collectors' exhibit and competition.

<http://2thebeach.org>

Squaxin Island Museum Library and Research Center

Ongoing in 2008

Shelton, WA

Just off the calm, cool waters of the Totten Inlet in south Puget Sound, this museum and cultural center exhibits rare artifacts. Cultural items found at an Eld Inlet village site in Southern Puget Sound form one of the main exhibits in the Squaxin Island Museum Library and Research Center. The museum presents a number of spectacular exhibits that bring the story of The People of the Water to life. Nearby mountains and waterways add to the experience.

www.squaxinmuseum.org

Avalon Glassworks

March 30

Moclips, WA

The fifth Avalon Glassworks show takes place in the Museum of North Beach, and will inspire would-be-discoverers to interact with nature, hit the sandy beaches and search for any variety of hidden treasures. Partial proceeds support the museum.

<http://moclips.org>

APRIL

Shelton Old Time Fiddlers

April 4-5

Shelton, WA

The Shelton Old Time Fiddlers Fest is a three day music extravaganza, located near Olympia, the state's capital. Featuring a spaghetti feed, live performances and competitions, the festival is in its 22nd year. Nearby farmers markets, shops and outstanding Native American and maritime museums will enhance the experience.

www.sock.org/fiddlefest

Photo & Fine Arts Show

April 11-13

Ocean Shores, WA

Inspired by the untamed natural beauty of the Pacific Ocean and miles of outstanding sandy beaches, the works of local photographers and artists will be featured and judged by a panel. Photographers and lovers of the art form are encouraged to spend the weekend and enjoy.

<http://oceanshores.org>



Chihully glass display at Union Station, Tacoma

Credit: J. Poth

MAY

Penn Cove Water Festival

May 17
Whidbey Island, WA
Dating back to 1930, the Penn Cove Water Festival celebrates the region's rich Native American heritage through exhibits dedicated to history, arts, music, performances and cultural education. A brief ferry ride transports visitors to this tranquil and beautiful island within close proximity to kayaking, hiking and outstanding watchable wildlife adventures.
<http://penncovewaterfestival.com/index.php>

Old Snohomish Antique & Classic Motorcycle Show

May 18
Snohomish, WA
Considered Washington State's antique capital, it's only fitting that Snohomish, a small town north of Seattle, plays host to a daylong event featuring rare and classic motorcycles. If you're interested in seeing a great collection of vintage bikes and guys doing stunts on old Harleys, you'll not want to miss this event.
www.snohomishbikeshow.org

Juan De Fuca Festival of the Arts

May 23-26
Port Angeles, WA
The festival is a lively mix of music, dance, ethnic performance, workshops, world beat, theatre, comedy, juggling, jazz, art and science programs.
www.jffa.org/festival08.shtml

First Salmon Ceremonies

Spring/Summer
Indian Reservations throughout the Pacific Northwest
These annual ceremonies are observed

by many tribes in spring or summer, depending on the timing of local salmon runs. According to tradition, the first salmon caught each season is considered sacred, and must be treated with respect. Contact individual tribes for information about dates and locations; a directory of tribes around the state can be found at www.goia.wa.gov

Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF)

May 22-June 15
Seattle, WA
One of the most influential film festivals in the world, this outstanding event features more than 300 films, shorts, documentaries and animated works of art. One of the biggest events of its kind, SIFF attracts thousands of visitors, from film professionals to students. Afterward, film buffs can engage in lively discussion over dinner and cocktails at one of the area's renowned restaurants, visit one of its many art museums or take a side trip to any of the outstanding local wineries.
www.seattlefilm.com/index.aspx

Northwest Folklife

May 23-26
Seattle, WA
The Folklife Festival is Seattle's unofficial leap into summer, with four days of jam-packed excitement. Artists from the Pacific Northwest along with special guests from throughout the world create an ethnic extravaganza embracing music and dance performances, visual arts and folklore exhibits, hands-on ethnic children's activities, symposia, dance and music workshops, crafts, food, imported goods, demonstrations of traditional arts, and more!
www.nwfolklife.org

Edmonds Jazz Connection

May 24
Edmonds, WA
Within close proximity to both outstanding outdoor activities and urban attractions in nearby Seattle, the city of Edmonds hosts this annual event, which attracts both local and regional audiences. The Jazz Connection hosts daytime performances by the region's top middle and high school big bands, vocal jazz groups and jazz combos and features national acts in the evening.
www.jazzconnection.org



Fisherman's Memorial, Jersich Park, Gig Harbor

Credit: City of Gig Harbor

JUNE

Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture

Summer
Spokane, WA
"The William Morely Manning American Indian Collection: Legacy of a Victorian Collector" features Native American art acquired in 1916. The exhibit offers a cultural perspective of "institutionalized" Native American Art and contrasts it with indigenous art of the period.
www.northwestmuseum.org/northwestmuseum/sub.aspx?id=2643

Edmonds Arts Festival

June 13-15
Edmonds, WA
The quaint and charming waterfront town of Edmonds springs to life with color and creativity during this annual event. As one of the region's oldest arts festivals, it features a rich array of visual and performing arts, juried arts displays, and exhibits from local and nationally recognized artists
<http://www.edmondsartsfestival.com>

Sacajawea Bluegrass Festival & Dutch Oven Cooking Rendezvous

June 13-15
Tri-Cities, WA
Nestled between the intersection of the Snake and Columbia Rivers in Sacajawea State Park, this popular annual event offers three days of old fashioned bluegrass music, Dutch oven cooking demonstrations, cowboy poetry readings, music seminars and camping in the natural beauty of the region. The event is also within close proximity to many of the state's top wineries.
www.sacajawea-bluegrass-festival.com

Leavenworth International Accordion Celebration

June 19-21

Leavenworth, WA

This nationally recognized Bavarian-themed village appropriately celebrates the accordion's vitality and importance in all cultures. With the dramatic foothills of the Cascade Mountains as its backdrop, this lively festival includes judged competitions, live music, free workshops, unique shopping and German-style fare.

www.accordioncelebration.com

Olympic Music Festival

June-September

Port Townsend, WA

If the lush rainforests or long wilderness coast don't beckon you, the chamber music performances will. Shows at this heralded event are held every Saturday and Sunday afternoon at 2pm. Pack a picnic, bring your friends, and spend a wonderful day roaming the lush festival grounds or nearby rural communities before the concert. Stay overnight in a houseboat for two or a quaint bed and breakfast.

www.olympicmusicfestival.org



"The Hammering Man" at Seattle Art Museum

Credit: Washington State Tourism

JULY

Bellingham Festival of Music

July 5-20

Bellingham, WA

Enjoy outstanding outdoor activities surrounded by the Puget Sound and Cascade Mountains by day and savor classical music and fine dining by night during this 15-day long festival. Director Michael Palmer conducts world-class musicians from the nation's finest orchestras in one of America's premier festival ensembles.

www.bellinghamfestival.org

Ritzville Blues Festival

July 12

Ritzville, WA

Considered one of the best music festivals in inland Washington State, the Ritzville Blues Festival has been thrilling locals and out of state visitors alike for nearly 15 years. With both an outdoor stage featuring national caliber talent as well as multiple indoor venues showcasing the best regional musicians, there's something for every blues fan. Think about camping overnight or staying at one of the many local hotels.

www.ritzvilleblues.com

Lake Chelan Bach Fest

July 12-19

Lake Chelan, WA

The mission of the Lake Chelan Bach Fest is to inspire, enrich and educate the audience and musicians, through live musical performances. Within close proximity are the North Cascades National Park and Lake Chelan, a beautiful glacier fed inland lake, perfect for outdoor recreation or a soothing nature-walk side trip.

www.bachfest.org/index.pho?page_id=1

Winthrop Rhythm & Blues Festival

July 18-20

Winthrop, WA

Held in the central Washington resort town of Winthrop, this lively blues festival is a three-day event packed full of exciting national and regional entertainment for all ages. There is on-site camping, food and craft vendors, portable showers, and a beer garden. The natural beauty of the Methow valley, coupled with its unique architecture (think old West), has made this region a favorite for locals and out-of-state visitors alike.

www.winthropbluesfestival.com/index.html

Lavender Festival

July 18-20

Sequim, WA

The stunning, colorful and pristine Sequim-Dungeness valley alone is worth the trip! Considered the lavender growing capital of the country, Sequim hosts this nationally renowned event, and growers share their techniques for cultivating, drying and using lavender. Visitors experience the perfume and beauty of this captivating herb and, of course, can enjoy many Northwest dishes inspired by lavender.

www.lavenderfestival.com/index.html

Gig Harbor Summer Arts Festival

July 19-20

Gig Harbor, WA

One hundred-fifty arts and crafts booths are set up on Judson Street, 10 food vendors will serve the public. Peninsula Art League presents their Summer Art Show inside KeyBank during the weekend. All are welcome. Music and entertainment for children are also provided.

<http://peninsulaartleague.com>

Finnish-American Folk Festival

July 25-27

Naselle, WA

This bi-annual festival celebrates Washington's strong cultural ties to Finland and the Finnish immigrants that have brought their culture to Washington. Located in the state's southwest region, visitors are within close proximity to the beautiful Washington Coast and many of the region's active volcanoes.

<http://finnam.naselle.net>

Methow Valley Chamber Music Festival

July 25-August 3

Winthrop, WA

A festival of classical music surrounded by the resplendent yet rugged beauty of the North Cascades in Washington State's Methow Valley. Make a vacation of it by enjoying the sights along the North Cascades scenic highway or spend a relaxing afternoon fly fishing in the Methow River.

www.methowmusicfestival.org



Glass balls at Beachcomber's Fun Fair, Ocean Shores

Credit: Sunny Walter

Intertribal Canoe Journey

July 26

La Conner, WA

This intertribal canoe journey follows the centuries-old traditional highways of the ancestors. The canoe journey has been held annually since 1989's "Paddle to Seattle." Up to 80 canoes, arriving from as far away as Bella Coola, B.C. will arrive in La Conner, Washington. This event is open to the public and is a moving and educational experience for all.

<http://eventful.com/events/la-conner-community-intertribal-canoe-journey-2008-/E0-001-005579529-5>

Bainbridge Bluegrass Festival

July 26

Bainbridge Island, WA

A short and scenic ferry ride from Seattle takes you to this enchanting island. The family oriented Blue Grass Festival includes music, food, and activities for kids. The festival is located at Battle Point Park which includes a walking trail, duck pond and the popular "kids up" playground.

<http://bainbridgebluegrassfestival.com>

Port Townsend Country Blues Festival

July 27-August 3

Port Townsend, WA

The coastal town of Port Townsend morphs into a weeklong blues music revival, in one of the state's most popular parks, Fort Warden State Park. There's plenty to do: listening to blues jams, participating in workshops, dining on local seafood fresh from the coastal waters and more.

www.centrum.org

AUGUST

Anacortes Arts Festival

August 1-3

Anacortes, WA

Over 250 artists from across the northwest converge on the bayside town of Anacortes for a three day festival featuring paintings, sculptures, handcrafted furniture and other products that showcase the talent of regional artists. The San Juan Islands, kayaking, whale watching and scenic floatplane flights are all nearby.

www.anacortesartsfestival.com

Coupeville Arts and Crafts Festival

August 9-10

Coupeville, WA

This is one of Washington State's oldest, continuously run festivals. They offer fine and folk art, handmade crafts, free children's activities, free live entertainment and food for every palate. Visitors will not only be charmed by the amazing art but also the historic waterfront views.

www.coupevilleartsandcraftsfestival.org

Festival at Mt. Si

August 9-10

North Bend, WA

As the exquisite Mt. Si looms in the background, visitors indulge in good food, unique shopping, vintage cars, fireworks and other events at the festival. You can enjoy the jazz, blues, rockabilly, Caribbean, and reggae music that will be on two stages, played by the Northwest's finest musicians.

www.festivalatmtsi.org

Chief Seattle Days

August 15-17

Seattle, WA

The city's namesake, Chief Seattle, is honored during Chief Seattle Days, which includes a memorial service at Chief Seattle's gravesite, dance contests

and demonstrations, canoe races, a salmon bake, craft and food vendors and a variety of other activities.

www.powwows.com

Fresh Paint Festival of Artists at Work

August 16-17

Everett, WA

This event transforms the Everett Marina into a huge outdoor studio and sidewalk gallery. Walk the promenade, browse locally-made glass art and even partake in do-it-yourself glass blowing. Also includes art sales, food and music, all this as sailboats gently rock in the peaceful waters of nearby Puget Sound.

www.artscouncilofsnoco.org/frespaint/index.htm

Vancouver Wine and Jazz Festival

August (dates being determined)

Vancouver, WA

Called "...one of the most important jazz festivals in the Northwest..." by Northwest Jazz Profile Magazine. This incredible outdoor jazz festival takes place just a short distance from the mighty Columbia River. Surrounded by the natural beauty of Southwest Washington, there's no better way to enjoy jazz, sample outstanding local wines and enjoy incredible Northwest cuisine. This is truly a world-class festival.

www.vancouverwinejazz.com/main.php

Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival

August 18-31

Orcas Island, WA

Take a scenic seaplane or iconic ferry ride to the islands and enjoy this truly unique music festival. Both entertaining and educational, world class musicians perform in the intimate venue of 213-seat Orcas Center. The added bonus of "seats with a view" of the waterways that surround the islands make this a one-of-a-kind experience. Don't miss the

sunsets! During the festival you can also enjoy the many local artist galleries and studios that are located nearby.

www.oicmf.org

Pend Oreille County Fair

August 21-24

Cusack, WA

Nestled in the picture-perfect plains of upper north eastern Washington, this fair showcases the region's agricultural heritage and culture. It offers urban-dwellers the opportunity to experience a piece of long-forgotten rural America: livestock exhibits, a rodeo, contests, demonstrations and entertainment.

www.povn.com/pocofair

Makah Days

August 29-31

Neah Bay, WA

This annual event is open to the public and is located on the Olympic Peninsula. On the way there, visitors will be thrilled as they drive through forested landscapes and coastal waterways, perhaps catching a glimpse of whales surfacing or bald eagles feeding. Included in the celebration are a parade, street fair, canoe races, traditional "slahal" games and native dancing and singing.

www.northolympic.com/makah/##b



Centennial Theatre Summer Concert, Moses Lake

Credit: Grant County Tourism/Spencer Grigg

Bumbershoot

August 30-September 1

Seattle, WA

Today, Bumbershoot is one of the largest music and urban arts festivals in the world, attracting and dazzling visitors from all over the world. A uniquely urban event, Bumbershoot is nestled in one of the nation's greenest locales, the Pacific Northwest, and an assortment of culinary experiences, wonderful shopping and outstanding outdoor recreation are quickly accessible. Bumbershoot maintains a reputation as a green trendsetter within the festival industry.

www.bumbershoot.org



Toppenish mural in wine region

Credit: LEVYsheckler

SEPTEMBER

18th Annual Wenatchee River Salmon Festival

September 18-21

Wenatchee, WA

Nothing is more symbolic to life in Washington than salmon. And this festival celebrates the return of the iconic salmon to the northwest rivers, though inter-generational hands-on activities, interactive exhibits, wildlife education and entertainment programs, music, art, and the opportunity to experience a meaningful cultural exchange with Native Americans in their encampment.

www.salmonfest.org

Whidbey Island Kite Festival

Sept 20-21

Whidbey Island, WA

Set against the majestic backdrop of the Olympic Mountains and Puget Sound, the kite festival features impressive ground and air displays as well as activities such as kids' kite making, beginning sport kite lessons, and sport kite demonstrations.

www.whidbeykites.org

Gig Harbor Quilt Festival

September (dates being determined)

Gig Harbor, WA

The community comes together to share in the fine art of quilting. This festival offers an array of activities such as a luncheon, quilting classes, a silent auction and a themed quilt challenge where all proceeds go to designated charities. For outdoor adventurers, pristine sandy beaches and the soothing roar of the Pacific Ocean await.

www.gigharborquiltfestival.org

OCTOBER

Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center

Ongoing

Seattle, WA

The Indian Cultural Center was established to share knowledge and culture through a gallery and numerous social and cultural programs throughout the year. Located within Seattle's historic Discovery Park, the center is within close proximity to the West Point archaeological site.

www.unitedindians.com/daybreak.html

Earshot Jazz Festival

2008 (dates being determined)

Seattle, WA

The Earshot Jazz Festival brings important musicians from around the world to Seattle and presents Seattle's finest jazz artists in a world-class festival setting. Music buffs can also visit the nearby Experience Music Project museum, which pays tribute to many forms of popular music.

www.earshot.org/festival/festival.html

Dungeness Crab & Seafood Festival

October 10-12

Port Angeles, WA

The freshest seafood from the home of the world famous Dungeness crab. Visit scenic rainforests, popular hot springs and many coastal towns on the way to this classic northwest festival. Includes food, cooking demonstrations, crafts, wine and beer, crafts and fine arts.

<http://crabfestival.org>