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## February 2023 Newsletter

It's that transitional time of year when the dreariness of winter seems past but spring is not quite yet blooming. Take a walk in NEON and you might feel the same about the district. New beginnings seem around the corner but maybe aren't fully on display. Construction workers buzz around, shop owners restock their shelves, new residents venture out and the energy of NEON percolates. Here's a few things to get excited about in the coming months:

- **Hurrah Players** are expanding the company's footprint in the district, taking on a new building and adding classrooms and a big AV component – more to come!
- **Fusion @ NEON** is materializing in record speed. Go by the corner of Boush Street and Olney Road – you'll be shocked at the apartment building's progress.
- **Hummingbird Dessert Boutique** is about to make life that much sweeter with tea service, classes and custom experiences.
- **Plant Norfolk's** one year anniversary of house plant love! Shop new merch and give two green thumbs up on March 25.



## Preston Singletary

In March Chrysler Museum of Art and the Perry Glass Studio break new ground once again with a landmark exhibition by internationally acclaimed glass artist Preston Singletary. Drawing from Singletary's indigenous ancestry, the exhibition, *Raven and the Box of Daylight*, tells the Native American story of Raven and his transformation of the world—bringing light to people by means of the stars, moon, and sun. Through an immersive, multisensory experience in the Museum to an in-person weekend at the Glass Studio with the artist, *Raven and the Box of Daylight* is a journey of transformation through glass, light, sound and story. Don't miss the opportunity to witness this incredible work from March 3 to July 2. Learn more [here](#).



## La Traviata

Crowd favorite *La Traviata* concludes Virginia Opera's 2022-2023 season this weekend at Harrison Opera House. Although a traditional production of Giuseppe Verdi's classic opera, Virginia Opera modernizes the show with fresh faces and the Richmond Symphony orchestra in the pit. The story of a stunning courtesan, Violetta, and the hopelessly romantic Alfredo (a love match that inspired pop culture icons like *Pretty Woman* and *Moulin Rouge*) is perfect for the seasoned opera-goer and opera newcomers alike. Purchase tickets for *La Traviata* March 3-5 [here](#).



The poster features a background image of a large, multi-story building with a blue roof and white facade. Overlaid on the right side is the text "GypSea Roots Collective" in a cursive font, followed by "Holistic Wellness in the" and "of Norfolk" in a sans-serif font, with a rainbow heart icon between the two lines. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo for "GypSea Roots COLLECTIVE" with a starburst design. The date and time "03.03.23 FRIDAY 630pm - 830pm" are prominently displayed in the center, with the phrase "COME CELEBRATE OUR LAUNCH!" below it.

## Neighborhood News

Welcome [Gypsea Roots Collective](#) to the NEON District! Located on the second floor of the Ghent-Olney Building at 801 Boush Street, the new business is a center of creativity, relaxation, empowerment and self-development. Owner and founder SB Smith offers coaching, massage therapy, Reiki and more in a specially designed space for health services, events, and community. Fittingly for NEON, SB also offers gallery walls for local artists and photography services for creative individuals and businesses. Check out Gypsea Roots at the [grand opening](#) on Friday, March 3 at 6:30pm.

## Programs and Events

- [NEON District Committee Meeting](#), Soiree Bistro, March 1
- [Love Me Tinder](#), Push Comedy Theater, March 3
- [Visiting Artist Series: Preston Singletary](#), Chrysler Museum Glass Studio, March 3-5
- [The New Faces of Comedy](#), Push Comedy Theater, March 16
- [Glass After Dark](#), Chrysler Museum Glass Studio, March 16
- [Sunday Sketchers](#), Chrysler Museum of Art, March 19
- [Engage Norfolk](#), Scope Arena, March 19
- [Sip and Paint with Vivian Davis](#), d'Art Center, March 22
- [Tap into Virginia Opera](#), Harrison Opera House, March 23
- [Persistence V Exhibition Opening Reception](#), d'Art Center, March 24
- [Hits! The Musical](#), Harrison Opera House, March 25

- [Artist Talk: Barbara Earl Thomas](#), Chrysler Museum of Art, March 26

For more NEON District events, click [here](#).

## Recently in NEON

### Exhibitions & Performances

*Barbara Earl Thomas: The Illuminated Body*, Chrysler Museum of Art

*Facing Ourselves: Mike Disfarmer and the American Portrait*, Chrysler Museum of Art

*Preston Singletary: Raven and the Box of Daylight*, Chrysler Museum of Art

*VIVID: A Juried National Exhibition*, d'Art Center

*Winner's Showcase*, d'Art Center

*La Traviata*, Harrison Opera House

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Generic Theater

*Hamilton*, Chrysler Hall

### Press

[Glass Artist Preston Singletary: Shattering Expectations](#), CBS This Morning

["Where Am I Going to Park This Thing?" Come From Away at Chrysler Hall](#), Spotlight News

[16 Ways to Celebrate Black History Month](#), VEER Magazine

[Musical Legend Wynton Marsalis Provides Musical Training to HBCU Students before Norfolk Concert](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Zinnia, a Chic Café with Casual Dining, Opens at Chrysler Museum](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Endearing Musical Come From Away Coming to Norfolk This Week](#), The Virginian-Pilot



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