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April 2023 Newsletter

Everyone's favorite bike ride is back! The **Glow Ride** cycles into NEON on Friday, May 19 for the seventh annual critical mass ride. If you've never participated don't miss it! Get your bike out of the garage and join us for a spin through the NEON District, Ghent and Downtown. More than three hundred riders cruise under city lights and down bike lanes with cycles tricked out in glow sticks, reflectors and blinking lights. Cyclists gather at 8pm at the Plot before the ride takes off with a police escort at 8:30pm.



The Concert Truck

Returning to Norfolk this May, **The Concert Truck** is a mobile music venue that strengthens communities by redefining the concert experience and making music accessible to all. Impassioned by their love for music and belief in its emotional power, pianists Nick Luby and Susan Zhang converted a 16-foot box truck into a fully functioning mobile concert hall, complete with lights, sound system, and piano. Since then, The Concert Truck has presented free concerts across the country in city streets, music and arts festivals, schools, neighborhoods, parks...anywhere you can think to park a truck. Virginia Arts Festival first brought the Truck to NEON in 2021 and will return to the Plot on **Saturday, May 6 at 6pm**. Click [here](#) to see other dates and venues around town!

THE CITY OF
NORFOLK
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

MAY 12
5:30PM-8:00PM

**A SEA-RIOUS SHELL-ABRATION OF
CULTURAL ARTS**

**MERMAID
MINGLING**

Mermaid Mingling

Dive into a “Sea-rious Shell-abration of Cultural Arts” at the [Mermaid Mingling Art Expo](#)! The City of Norfolk’s Parks and Recreation Department and the NEON District are co-hosting a celebration of all the unique visual and performing arts classes available through Norfolk rec centers. Join in the fun on Friday evening, May 12, 5:30-8pm at the Plot, as students from dance classes perform on stage and local artists exhibit their work in a pop-up exhibition. Mermaid tails and scales welcome.



Neighborhood News

Welcome [Shark City Naturals](#) to the NEON District! Shark City Naturals is a family-owned and operated, all-natural cosmetics company based out of Norfolk. The products were initially made for their large family of ten after experiencing adverse reactions from beauty products made with unknown substances, but it quickly evolved into a flourishing business that sells a variety of beauty products made with high-quality butters and essential oils. At Shark City Naturals, total wellness is the top priority. You can now find their Norfolk HQ at 228 W. Olney Road, right next to Ghent Grab and Go. For now, the shop is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 7pm.

Programs and Events

- [NEON District Committee Meeting](#), Ghent-Olney Building, May 3
- [Love Me Tinder](#), Push Comedy Theater, May 5
- [Mother's Day Studio Sale](#), Chrysler Museum Glass Studio, May 6 & 7
- [Chicago the Musical: in Concert](#), Chrysler Hall, May 6
- [Attack of the Rookies](#), Push Comedy Theater, May 11
- [Oil Painting Workshop Series](#), d'Art Center, May 12
- [The Soul II Soul Tour](#), Scope, May 13
- [Kountry Wayne](#), Chrysler Hall, May 14
- [Glass After Dark](#), Chrysler Museum Glass Studio, May 18
- [Fortune Feimster](#), Harrison Opera House, May 18
- [Bike to Work Day Pit Stop](#), The Plot, May 19
- [Third Friday Clay Throwdown](#), d'Art Center, May 19
- [Bhav Brigade Yoga](#), The Plot, May 20
- [NEON Art Tour](#), The Plot, May 20
- [Smokey Robinson](#), Chrysler Hall, May 21
- [Girl-Prov](#), Push Comedy Theater, May 27

See all upcoming events in and around the NEON District [here!](#)

Recently in NEON

Exhibitions & Performances

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

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

Flourish: Annual National Juried Exhibition, d'Art Center

Janice Gay Maker: Stories from the Earth, d'Art Center

Let Me Tell You What It's Really Like, Generic Theater

Press

[Here's What It Took to Get Ukrainian Music Group out of War-Torn Country to Perform at Virginia International Tattoo](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Three Women Make Swan Lake Shine: Nayara Lopes, Oksana Maslova, and Dayesi Torriente](#), VEER Magazine

[A Prince, Princess and a Curse: Virginia Arts Festival Opens Season with *Swan Lake*](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Virginia Dancer Who Fulfilled Dream of Joining Alvin Ailey's Company to Perform in Hampton Roads This Week](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Relatable to the Future: Khalia Campbell and Patrick Coker Discuss Alvin Ailey's Legacy](#), VEER Magazine



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Downtown Norfolk Council | 208 E. Main Street, 2nd Floor | Norfolk, VA 23510