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May 2023 Newsletter

Your input on Downtown and the NEON District is needed! Downtown Norfolk Council is currently under way with a planning effort to refine the long-term vision for Downtown and identify priority improvements and investments over the next five years, and also focus the financial and staff resources for DNC. The last strategic plan was completed in 2015 and included a large initiative on the NEON District that was instrumental in guiding the neighborhood's development. A key step to the new vision is stakeholder feedback. Please complete this brief [survey](#) and join us in guiding the future of Downtown Norfolk and the NEON District.



Delectable

Get hungry for a mouth-watering opening reception for the *Delectable* exhibition at d'Art Center on June 3, 11am-2pm. There will be mimosas and brunch bites from local restaurants in celebration of the food-themed artworks, including d'Egg Diner, Starving Artist Cafe, Mudita Cafe & Coffeehouse, Waters Edge Winery Norfolk, and a dessert table from Pownd Cakes by Jen. Let the art, and brunch, fill you up as you browse the galleries.

A vibrant purple poster for a Zumba event. The text reads: Downtown Norfolk dn, FREE ZUMBA, HAPPY HOUR BOOT CAMP with Morgan + Tamara. The event is on Thursday, June 1, 6:30 PM at The Plot, NEON District. Participants will receive a free drink at Sanctuary. The poster features illustrations of four people in athletic wear dancing and a vertical column of 'x' marks.

Downtown Norfolk dn

FREE ZUMBA

HAPPY HOUR BOOT CAMP

with Morgan + Tamara

📅 Thursday, June 1, 6:30 PM

📍 The Plot, NEON District

📢 Participants will receive (1) FREE drink, valid 6/1/23 at Sanctuary

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XXXXXX

The Outdoor Series

Fitness classes are back in the NEON for summer! Come out to The Plot for the **Downtown Outdoor Happy Hour Boot Camp**, a free Zumba class with Tamara and Morgan from The Joy Lab this Thursday, June 1 at 6:30pm. Enjoy 45 minutes of lively exercise followed by one free after-class drink at Sanctuary compliments of the Downtown Norfolk Council. Register [here](#). Regular classes with **The Joy Lab's Outdoor Series** start the week after, bringing the heat each Thursday night at 7pm with Zumba and high intensity workouts.



Neighborhood News

Check in with your favorite NEON District business this month. You'll be pleasantly surprised to shop new items, find an annual sale or discover a special menu. **Plant Norfolk** just added Pride-themed merch for June, **Stark and Legum's** blockbuster Father's Day Sale is going on now, **Café Milo** is now open for dinner service Tuesday through Saturday, **Hummingbird Dessert Boutique** launched afternoon tea service, **Ghent Grab & Go** has fresh from the farm produce – there's just about something for everyone on a choose-your-own-NEON-adventure.

Programs and Events

- **Downtown Happy Hour Boot Camp**, The Plot, June 1
- **First Friday with Plane Brain**, Zeke's NFK, June 2
- **Ultimate Roasting Championship**, Push Comedy Theater, June 2
- **Delectable Opening Reception**, d'Art Center, June 3
- **Black Artists Tour**, The Plot, June 3
- **June Plant Exchange**, GypSea Roots Collective, June 4
- **Earth, Wind & Fire: A Storytelling Festival**, Chrysler Museum of Art, June 4
- **NEON Committee Meeting**, Hugh R. Copeland Center, June 7

- [New Moon Meditation](#), GypSea Roots Collective, June 16
- [Freedom on Film: Juneteenth](#), Chrysler Museum of Art, June 16
- [Bhav Brigade Yoga](#), The Plot, June 17
- [Rainbow Rodeo: HR Pride Night](#), Chrysler Museum of Art, June 21
- [Dumpster Dudes](#), Generic Theater, June 24

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

IDEAL, Intentional Designs of Expression in Artistic Languages, Chrysler Museum of Art

Delectable: A Juried National Exhibition, d'Art Center

Wendy Bombelles: Pathways, d'Art Center

Jesus Christ Superstar, Chrysler Hall

Press

[Madagascar Musical, New Orleans Festival Coming to Norfolk This Weekend](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Chrysler Museum Names Director of Curatorial Affairs](#), VEER Magazine

[Norfolk's Own Rob Fisher Leads VSO in Chicago the Musical](#), The Virginian-Pilot

[Norfolk Hosting Events for Bike Month, Including Glow Ride & Zoo Bike Night](#), WTKR

[Jesus Christ Superstar Cast Member Achieved a Dream](#), The Virginian-Pilot



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