

March 2025 Newsletter

Explore the NEON District's gallery of street art this spring on a free walking tour. Produced in partnership with Norfolk Tour Company since 2017, these guided tours offer a unique up-close view of more than 100 works of art. From towering murals to hidden gems, visitors will uncover the stories, techniques, and inspirations behind the art, as well as the local businesses, events, and community efforts that make NEON a thriving creative hub. Tours commence on Saturday, May 17 at 4pm at The Plot and continue monthly until December.

Leading most of the NEON District tours this season is **Corinna Sayward**, a talented local muralist and freelance artist with deep ties to Norfolk's creative community. With extensive experience in mural creation and public art, Corinna brings a passion for community-driven art and a firsthand perspective as a practicing artist, making each tour an engaging and immersive experience.



Loving v. Virginia

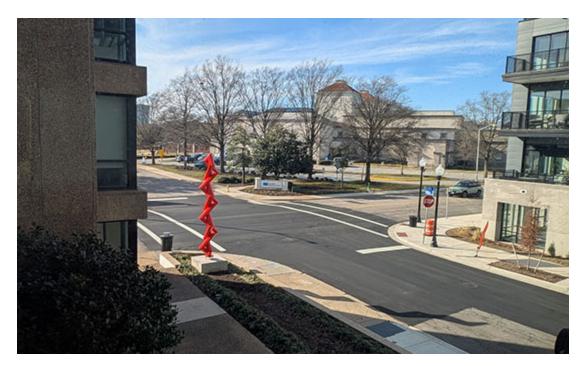
Virginia Opera and Richmond Symphony proudly present *Loving v. Virginia*, a powerful new opera that tells the true story of Mildred and Richard Loving, an interracial couple from Virginia whose 1967 Supreme Court victory struck down laws banning interracial marriage. Arrested under Virginia's Racial Integrity Act after marrying legally in Washington, DC, the Lovings were exiled from their home state and launched a legal battle, with help from the ACLU, that reshaped civil rights and paved the way for future marriage equality. This landmark opera features music by acclaimed composer Damien Geter, libretto by Jessica Murphy Moo, and is directed by legendary mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves. Norfolk performances take place April 25 and 27 at Harrison Opera House. Tickets and more information can be found at vaopera.org/loving-v-virginia.



Photograph courtesy of The Estate of Grey Villet

Plot Volunteer Day

It's not too late to sign up! Volunteers are needed to help refresh The Plot for the spring and summer this Saturday, April 5 from 10am-1pm. There is a fun line-up of projects to ensure the NEON District's community space is ready for action. Please wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty and bring extra gardening tools and gloves if you can. Children are welcome with adult supervision. Please register for a volunteer shift **here**. Thank you for making The Plot beautiful and enhancing a creative and safe space for our community!



Neighborhood News

A striking new sculpture, *Red Zig Zag – a fence around nothing*, was unveiled last week at the Duke Grace Apartments, just in time for the rush of visitors to NEON for the grand re-opening of the Chrysler Museum Glass Studio. Created by Anton Bakker, who is originally from Norfolk, the sculpture stands 14 feet tall—17 feet on its pedestal—and showcases his focus on geometry, the beauty of symmetry, and the profound importance of perspective. Though most of Bakker's works are installed in Dubai, three significant art lovers in Norfolk commissioned the piece specifically for this site in the NEON District.

Programs and Events

- Momix, Chrysler Hall, April 2
- Mixtape First Thursday, Chrysler Museum of Art, April 3
- Art Chat & Demo: Nancy Tankersley, d'Art Center, April 4
- Girl-Prov, Push Comedy Theater, April 4
- Sound of Music Sing-a-long, Chrysler Hall, April 6
- Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Chrysler Hall, April 11
- Comedy Night, Generic Theater, April 12
- The Push Book Club, Push Comedy Theater, April 13
- Glass After Dark, Chrysler Museum Glass Studio, April 17

- The October Nights: Calling All Lovers Tour, Chrysler Hall, April 17
- IgNITE: Ink!, Chrysler Museum of Art, April 25
- Bhav Brigade Yoga, The Plot, April 26
- Free Floral Sketching Workshop, d'Art Center, April 26
- Norfolk Forum: Bob and Lee Woodruff, Chrysler Hall, April 29

See all upcoming events in and around the NEON District here!

Recently in NEON

Exhibitions & Performances

Framing the Expanded Field: Robert Smithson's Spiral Jetty, Chrysler Museum of Art
Joyce J. Scott: Messages, Chrysler Museum of Art
Oaxaca Central: Contemporary Mexican Printmaking, Chrysler Museum of Art
Glass Immersed: A Glass Exhibit for the 2025 NFK Glass Circuit, d'Art Center
Loving v. Virginia, Harrison Opera House
Virginia International Tattoo, Scope Arena
Press
Hurrah Players Celebrates 40 Years, Coastal Virginia Magazine
Norfolk Photographer Explores Loss of Land, Loss of History in Chrysler Show, WHRO
Chrysler Museum of Art Announces Grand Opening of the Perry Glass Studio, Outlife 757

The Circus Is Coming to Hampton Roads, with Its Newest Star, The Virginian-Pilot

Renovated Perry Glass Studio Opens Friday with a Weekend of Free Events, Demonstrations and More, WHRO

Chesapeake Native to Perform in Momix's Alice, The Virginian-Pilot

Norfolk Glassblowing Studio Undergoes \$30 Million Expansion to Allow for More Visitor Experiences, The Virginian-Pilot



You're receiving this email because you've subscribed to our newsletter. Not interested anymore? Unsubscribe. Downtown Norfolk Council | 208 E. Main Street, 2nd Floor | Norfolk, VA 23510