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Cake ^{the world}
a Batter!
place!





DISCOVER OUR SEASONAL CRAFT COCKTAILS

PEPPERMILL
RENO



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Exploring Reno's vibrant mocktail scene

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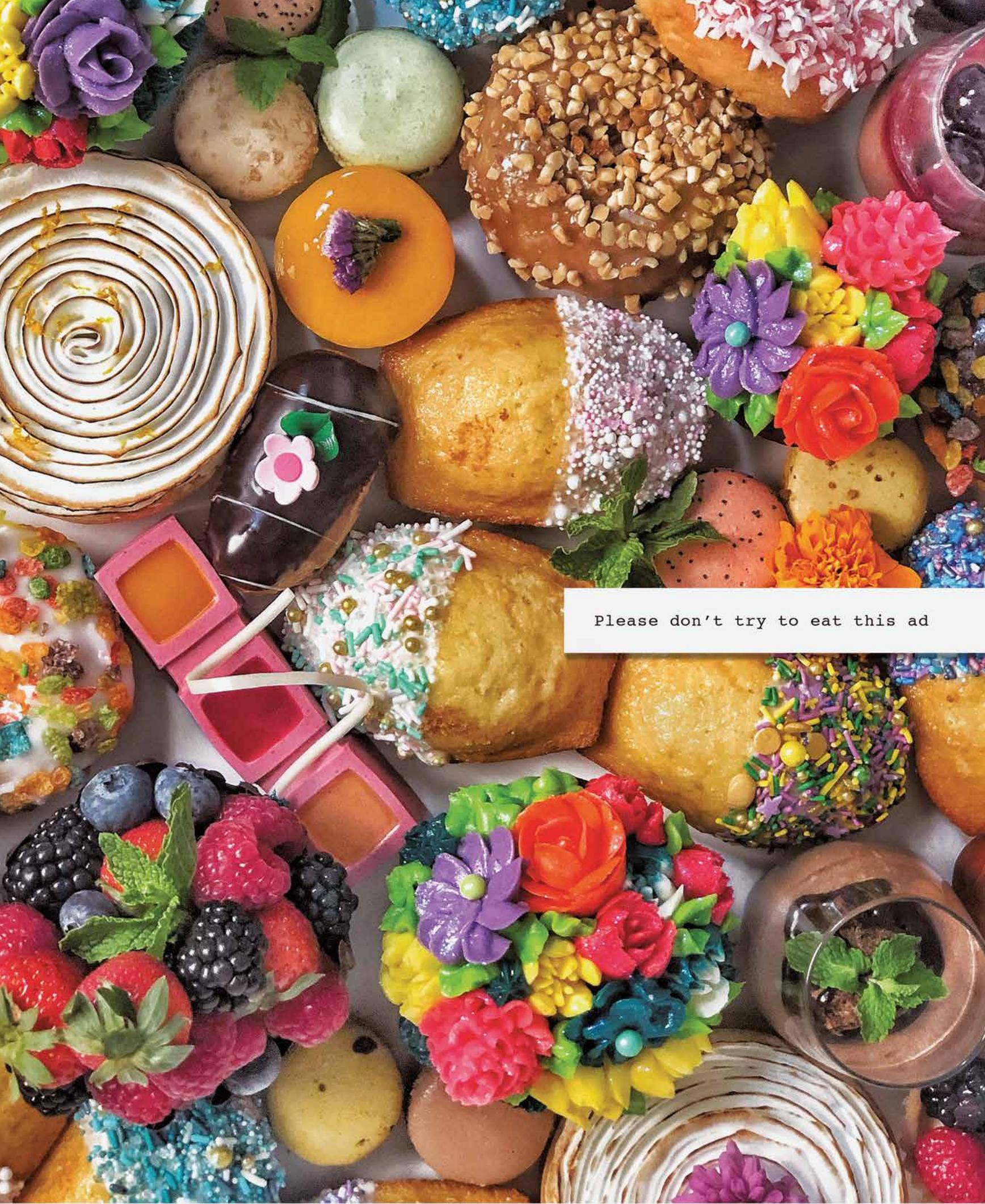
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CAKE THE WORLD

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Cake artist Brian Valencia finds sweet success



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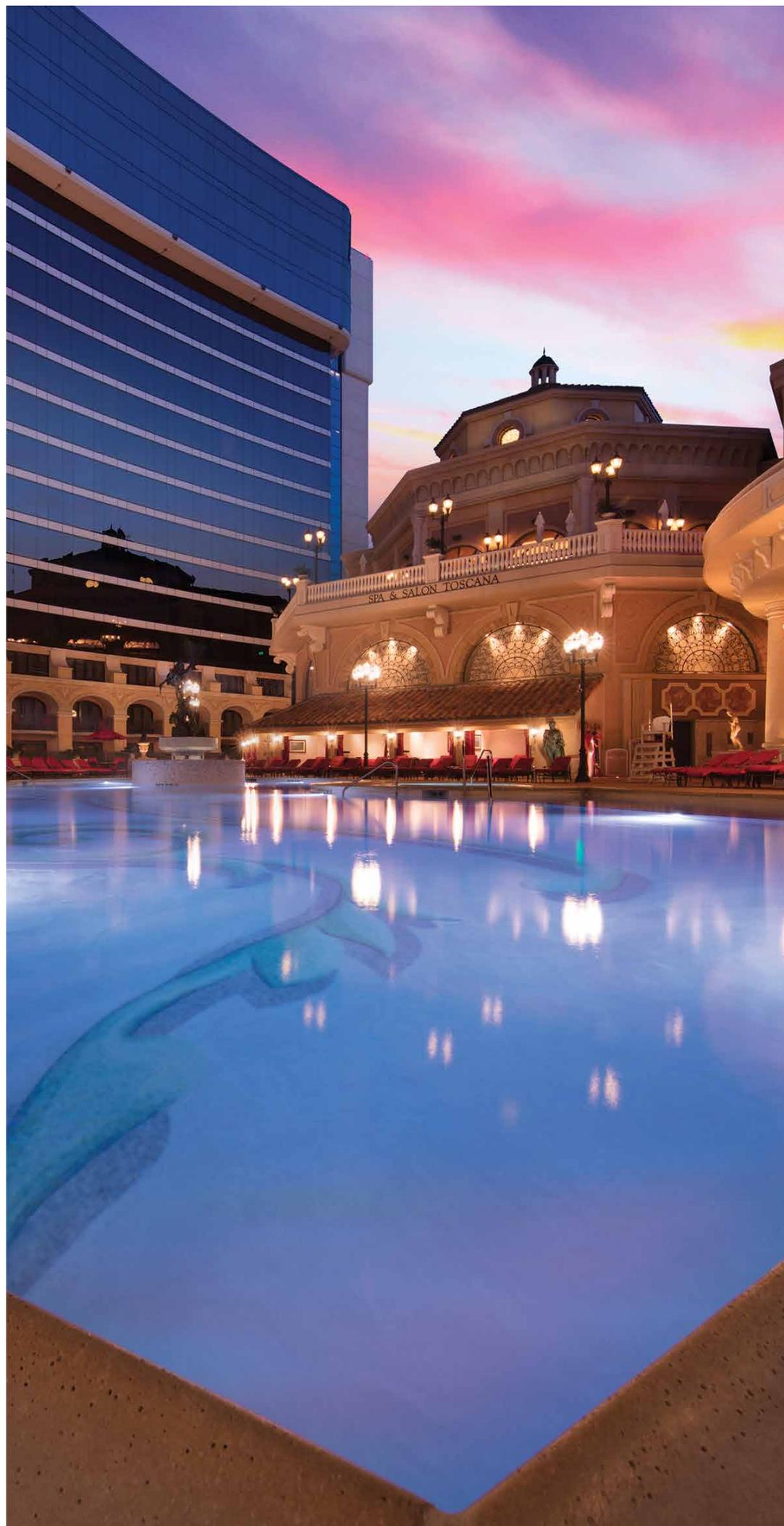
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PEPPERMILL
RENO



SPRING

As winter's frost thaws and the sun shines brighter, the Reno Sparks region bursts into vibrant life! From impressive musicals to exhilarating marathons, get ready for a season filled with outdoor adventures, cultural delights, and community spirit – there's something for everyone under the blooming Nevada sky.

RENO WINE WALK

Multiple Dates

Uncork an afternoon of fun and flavor at the Reno Wine Walk! Visit participating merchants for a taste of their finest wines, mingle with fellow wine enthusiasts, and discover the vibrant Riverwalk District. So, lace up your walking shoes, unleash your inner wine connoisseur, and join the Reno Wine Walk for a day of delectable discoveries and delightful connections. Event details can be found at [eventbrite.com/e/reno-wine-walk-tickets-143014336731](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reno-wine-walk-tickets-143014336731).

LAKE TAHOE REGGAE FESTIVAL

Feb. 17-18

Escape the winter blues and bask in island vibes at the Lake Tahoe Winter Reggae Festival, returning to Stateline, Nevada February 17-18! This iconic festival boasts a stellar lineup of reggae royalty, including Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley and Stephen Marley, legendary band Stick Figure, and many more talented artists. Whether you're a seasoned reggae veteran or a curious newcomer, the Winter Reggae Fest has something for everyone. Don't miss your chance to experience the magic of reggae in a winter wonderland! Grab your tickets and get ready to warm your soul and dance your heart out at the Lake Tahoe Winter Reggae Festival. Event details can be found at laketahoereggaefest.com/winter.

RENO RUN 4 LOVE

Feb. 18

Cupid's calling! On February 18, join the Run 4 Love, a 4-mile celebration of love (and self-love!). Whether you're a seasoned runner, a casual jogger, or just looking for a fun activity, this scenic route through the heart of Reno is perfect for enjoying the city and getting your heart pumping. Find more information at raceroster.com/events/2024/79594/reno-run-4-love.

MEAN GIRLS ON TOUR

March 12-17

Calling all Plastics, Wannabes, and Burn Book burners! *Mean Girls the Musical* is taking over Reno March 12-17, and it's so fetch! Experience the classic plot twists and hilarious one-liners with a fresh, musical twist. Don't wait – tickets are sure to sell out fast! Grab yours now and get ready to say, "On Wednesdays we wear pink!" Find more information at pioneercenter.com/Online/article/MeanGirls.

LEPRECHAUN CRAWL 2024

March 16

Ready to raise a glass and paint the town green? Get your green on for the Reno Leprechaun Crawl on March 16 and join more than 5,000 crawlers for an epic bar crawl unlike any other. Hosted by the masterminds behind the Reno Zombie Crawl and Reno Santa Crawl, this St. Paddy's bash promises nonstop fun and a chance to experience Reno's vibrant nightlife like never before. Grab your crawl cup, channel your inner Irish spirit, and prepare for a day filled with laughter, good company, and unforgettable memories in the heart of Reno. Event details can be found at crawlreno.com/event/leprechauncrawl.

12TH ANNUAL LEPRECHAUN RACE

March 17

On March 17, get ready to chase leprechauns, rainbows, and laughter at the 12th Annual Leprechaun Race – a charming 5K through the scenic Midtown and Wells Avenue districts of Reno. Support a good cause, channel your inner leprechaun, and enjoy the festive atmosphere; register now and join the fun! Event details can be found at race178.com/leprechaunrace.

WALK MS

April 13

Move your body, move mountains, and move closer to a cure for MS! Join Walk MS 2024 on April 13, an unforgettable experience where your steps fuel a brighter future for everyone impacted by multiple sclerosis. This isn't just a walk; it's a movement. Whether you're personally affected by MS, know someone who is, or simply believe in a world free from this debilitating disease, Walk MS offers a unique opportunity to celebrate the strength and resilience of the MS community while actively contributing to the fight for a cure. Find more information at events.nationalmssociety.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1951.

2024 BIGGEST LITTLE HALF MARATHON

April 27

Get ready to conquer the Biggest Little City at the Biggest Little Half Marathon! This iconic Reno event is more than just a race, it's a celebration of community and perseverance. Run through diverse landscapes, from urban streets to riverside paths, capturing the essence of Reno's unique charm. Afterwards, enjoy live music, awards ceremonies, delicious refreshments, and a sense of accomplishment with fellow runners. Event details can be found at raceroster.com/events/2024/81254/2024-biggest-little-half-marathon.

HOT AUGUST NIGHTS SPRING FEVER REVIVAL

May 17-18

Kick off the season at the Grand Sierra Resort with the Hot August Nights Spring Fever Revival May 17-18, an annual event that revs up anticipation for a summer filled with classic car gatherings. Open to all vehicles from 1979 and earlier, including cars, pickup-size trucks, and emergency vehicles, this event gets enthusiasts' engines running for the upcoming festivities. Find more details and registration information at hotaugustnights.net/spring-fever-revival/.

THE BIGGEST LITTLE BLOCK PARTY IN THE WORLD

May 18

"The Biggest Little Block Party In The World" will electrify downtown Reno under the iconic Reno Arch with an all-ages music and arts festival on Saturday, May 18, featuring everything from national DJ/producers on the Dancetronauts Bass Station Stage to local talent in a Silent Disco, complemented by food trucks, full-service bars, vendors, and live art. It's a sensory feast of electronic music, pyrotechnics, and community spirit, offering diverse musical experiences and celebrating Reno's vibrant culture in a family-friendly atmosphere. More information can be found at tixr.com/groups/basscampfest/events/biggest-little-block-party-94647.

RENO-TAHOE ODYSSEY

May 31-June 1

Reno-Tahoe Odyssey Relay Run Adventure (RTO) takes place May 31 to June 1 and offers three unique race options for an unforgettable 178-mile loop experience from Reno to Lake Tahoe and back, starting at Wingfield Park and finishing at Idlewild Park, covering iconic locations like Truckee, Tahoe City, and more. With the course divided into 36 segments averaging 5 miles each, participants will journey through the heart of the Reno-Tahoe region's breathtaking landscapes. Choose your adventure at renotahoeodyssey.com/which-relay/reno-tahoe-odyssey/.

EVENTS

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WITHOUT SPIRITS:

Exploring Reno's Vibrant Mocktail Scene

by Sarah Bear Rively

THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY GETS CURIOUS

Reno, Nevada, is often synonymous with its lively casinos and vibrant nightlife. However, for those who prefer a night out without the influence of alcohol, the Biggest Little City has a hidden gem – a growing trend of bars and lounges that cater to the nonalcoholic crowd.

Curious in the City, a new business/brand centered in Reno, focuses on supporting and highlighting Northern Nevada establishments that are putting equal care into the creation of nonalcoholic concoctions as they are ones with the booze. If you're looking to unwind, enjoy a delicious drink, and support local businesses, without alcohol, Curious in the City is here to help you plan your night out, without compromising the fun or sophistication you crave.



After decades of living in Reno, Curious in the City owner and creator, Sarah Bear Rively, knows there are a million reasons why someone may choose to not drink, but there are a million more reasons why it's nobody's business. Curious in the City is here to support you, for any reason you choose to have fun, with or without alcohol.

We invite you to explore the flourishing mocktail scene in Reno, where innovative mixologists are crafting delightful alcohol-free beverages to provide an equally exciting experience for all.



The Rise of Mocktails in Reno

Traditionally, bar culture has been centered around alcoholic drinks, but with the increasing demand for non-alcoholic options, Reno's bars, lounges, and restaurants are stepping up to the challenge. Mocktails, or nonalcoholic cocktails, have become a staple in many establishments across the city, offering a diverse range of flavors to cater to every palate.

Crafting the Perfect Mocktail

One of the key elements of Reno's mocktail scene is the dedication to craftsmanship. Skilled mixologists are embracing the art of crafting intricate and flavorful beverages without relying on alcoholic spirits. Fresh and locally sourced ingredients take center stage, with a focus on seasonal fruits, herbs, and unique infusions.

The Mocktail Menus

Several bars in Reno have embraced the trend by introducing dedicated mocktail menus that showcase the creativity and expertise of their bartenders. From refreshing citrus-infused concoctions to complex herbal blends, these menus offer an array of choices that go beyond the typical soda or juice options. Establishments that are really nailing the "mocktail game" are introducing patrons to "spiritless spirits" like Ritual Zero Proof, Lyre's Non-Alcoholic Spirits, and All The Bitter.

Notable Mocktail Hotspots

PEPPERMILL RESORT SPA CASINO

Terrace Lounge and Spa Toscana

One place that is doing mocktails justice is none other than the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino. The Peppermill is a luxurious resort located in the heart of Reno, known for its vibrant atmosphere and extensive amenities. The resort features a distinctive and modern design, with a focus on comfort and entertainment.

It's easy to be skeptical of a large resort's ability to hone in on the needs of those looking for a nonalcoholic beverage, but the Peppermill respects each crafted cocktail, with or without alcohol.

Whether you're looking to experience a relaxing day using the extensive resort amenities or ready to enjoy a night out, the Peppermill has you covered!

For daytime enjoyment, spend a day at Spa Toscana indulging in self-care and some serious mocktail options.



Not to be missed are the Grapefruit Paloma and the Pineapple Bliss. There is no better way to rehydrate after a great massage than a mocktail that includes cold-pressed pineapple syrup, lime, and coconut water.

When you're ready to transition from day-to-night, look no further than the Peppermill's Terrace Lounge. Located in the center of the resort, this dreamy lounge is a delight for all the senses. Become mesmerized by the beautiful flower chandelier, dance the night away to a live band, and quench your thirst with one of Terrace Lounge's mocktails. The mixologists put careful consideration into the rotating seasonal menu. Not to be missed are the Fresh Fruit Sangria for a sweet, refreshing choice perfect to cap off a spring night; the Yuzu-Blood Orange Mojito, a zesty punch with a balanced sweetness that will make your taste buds dance; and the Plum 75 for an elegant mocktail topped with housemade citrus foam.

Important to remember: These mixologists are experts in their craft and can shake you up something special if nothing on the menu suits you.



Peppermill Resort Spa Casino's Terrace Lounge and Spa Toscana are located at 2707 S. Virginia Street in Reno. Terrace Lounge is open noon to 11:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and noon to 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Spa Toscana is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



PIGNIC PUB & PATIO

Fun, funky, and fearless when taking risks with non-alcoholic beverages is Pignic Pub & Patio. This unique establishment is a family-friendly, popular spot known for its laid-back atmosphere, patio seating, and a diverse food and drink menu.

Pignic's owner Trevor Leppke has carefully crafted the mocktail menu that takes permanent residence on the drink menu. Making the drinks truly unique are Leppke's use of alcohol-free options like Lyre's Non-Alcoholic Spirits. By using alcohol alternatives, drinks at Pignic are taken

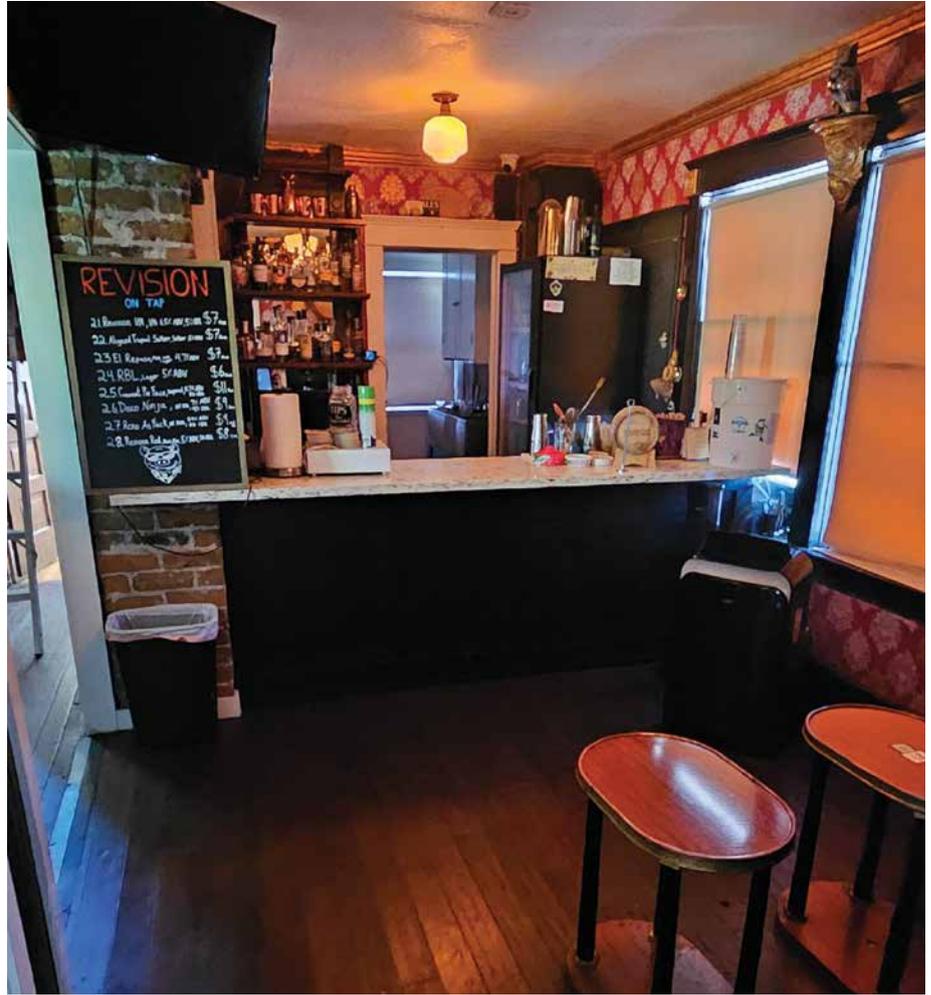


Photos courtesy of Pignic Pub & Patio

up a notch and feel more like you're drinking the "real thing."

On Pignic's permanent menu, the How the West Was Won features Lyre's American Malt NA Bourbon, bitters, spiced syrup, and other flavors all served over a beautifully logo-pressed block of ice. The Express-No Martini, made with Lyre's Spiced Cane and Coffee NA Spirits, toasted marshmallow syrup, cold brew coffee, and more magic, is shaken up into a frothy concoction that can be enjoyed any time of day.

Always a popular choice to chill and unwind during day and night, Pignic is also a great place to grab some cans to go. Located a block from the Truckee River and Wingfield Park, a highlight is the ability to grab a great quality nonalcoholic cider or beer to enjoy while on the move.



Pignic Pub & Patio is located at 235 Flint Street in Reno, and is open 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday, 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tuesday, 3 p.m. to midnight Wednesday and Thursday, 3 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to midnight Sunday.

RUM SUGAR LIME

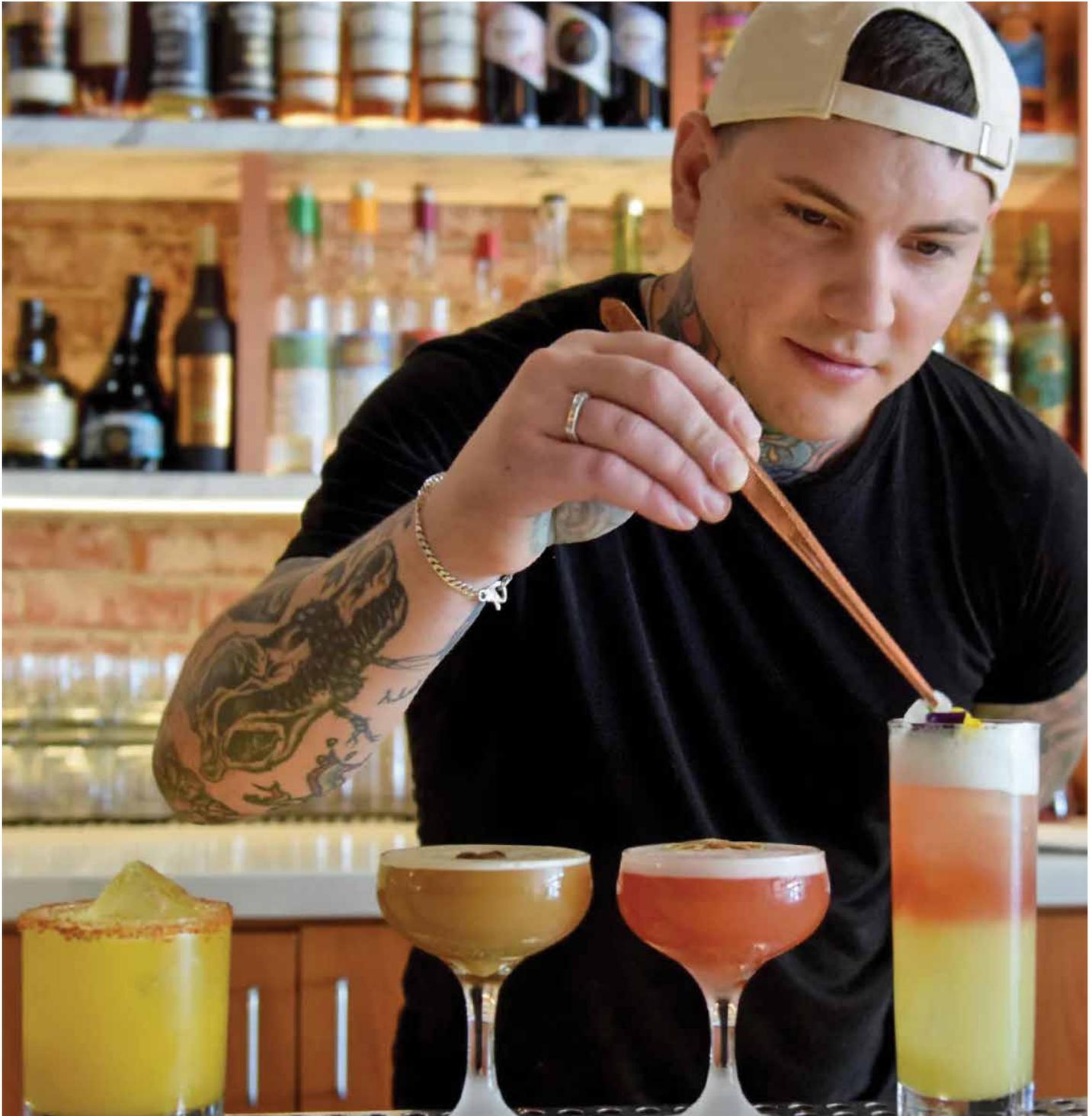
Known as Reno's rum and tropical cocktail bar, Rum Sugar Lime (RSL) also proudly offers an array of nonalcoholic options to tempt the taste buds. This 21+ cocktail lounge is nestled in the heart of MidTown and emphasizes tropical cocktails and fresh ingredients.

With the goal of creating a beautiful, clean, safe, hospitable place to gather for something truly special, owner Larry DeVincenzi and his family designed a location that is pleasing to all the senses and offers a modern and elegant take on a tiki bar.

Cocktails and mocktails are both loved dearly at RSL, so why choose? Rum Sugar Lime takes great care in making fresh juices, syrups, and more for each libation. The bright location is perfectly designed to join your friends for a drink, with or without the buzz. For a truly tropical taste, order the Yuzu and the Mango. The Yuzu features citrus juice from both the yuzu and lime and includes demerara syrup as the special ingredient, while the Mango tickles the taste buds with muddled habanero combined with other tropical fruits.

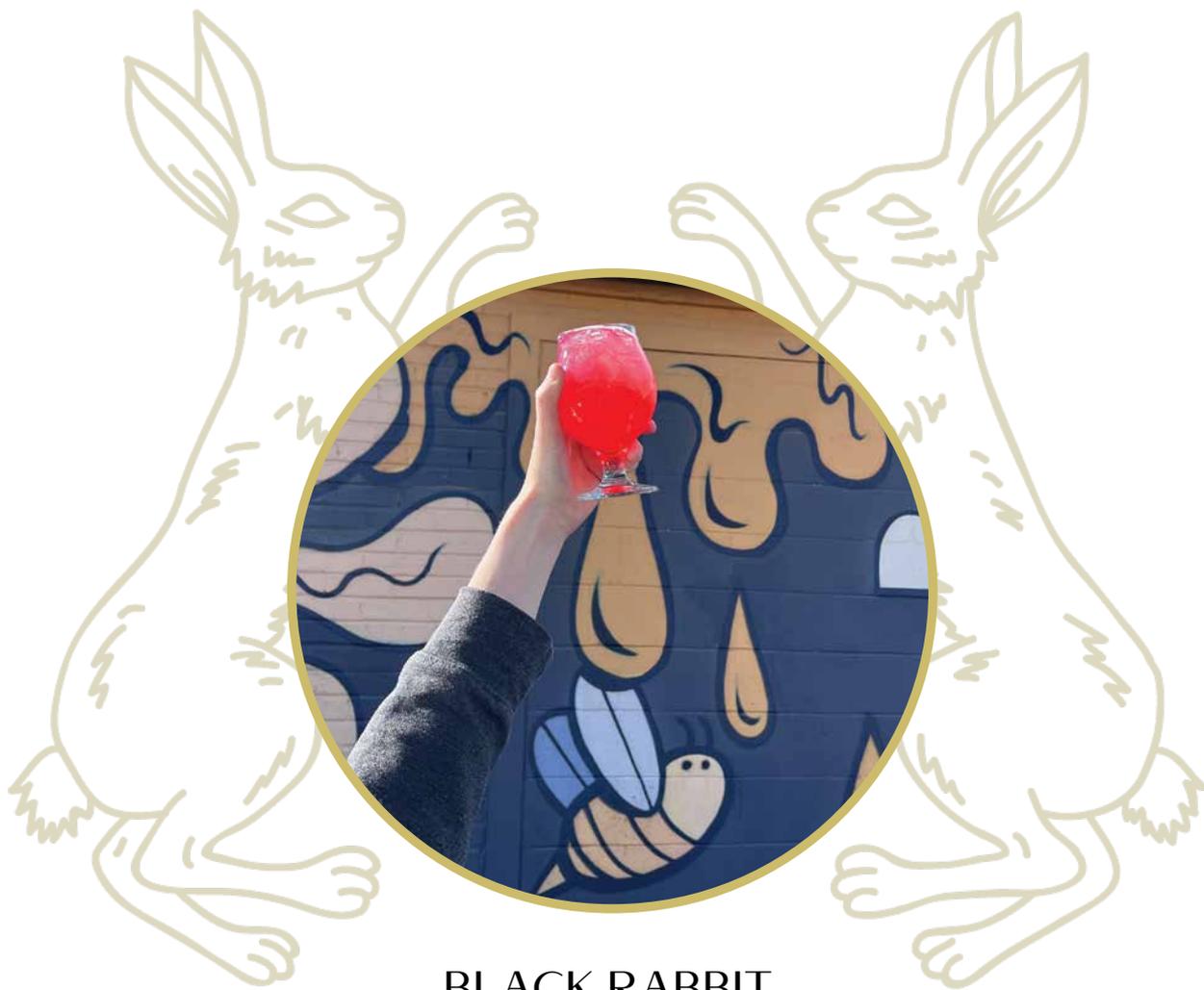
Always appreciated is that Rum Sugar Lime will never leave a mocktail seeker with just a soda water and a slice of lime.





Photos courtesy of Rum Sugar Lime

Rum Sugar Lime is located at 1039 S. Virginia Street in Reno, and is open 4 p.m. to midnight Tuesday through Sunday.



BLACK RABBIT MEAD COMPANY

The taproom and production facility of Black Rabbit Mead Company is in the heart of downtown Reno's up-and-coming Brewery District. While their business name lends you to think of just a honey-based elixir, Black Rabbit offers everything from its specially brewed cider-style, beer-style, and cocktail-style meads, and a variety of nonalcoholic and CBD-infused options.

This family-friendly location (unless an event is noted otherwise) is a center hub of action in the area. Known for its great live bands and events, Black Rabbit Mead Company is always a great place to grab a drink, no matter what you are craving. Owners Jake Conway and Will Truce have carefully taken the time and consideration to create drinks sourced with honey from the mountains and foothills that surround Northern Nevada.

Black Rabbit Mead Company is proud to be

Nevada's first meadery, displaying a style of mead only made by a handful of companies in the world. Mead is traditionally served like a sweet wine, but this newer and drier cider-style mead is quickly growing in popularity.

Supporting the sober community, and those looking for a nonalcoholic refresher, Black Rabbit offers zero-proof drinks, each celebrating different things we love about our community, and features partnerships with other local businesses such as event space The Virgil, the small batch apothecary Sierra Roots Wellness; and the delicious and rowdy tea blenders at Modest Mix.

Sip on the Cinnamon Hibiscus Elixir, a unique draft drink made in collaboration with Modest Mix Tea. This satisfying mocktail makes you feel festive and sophisticated, while not feeling like you're missing out by going alcohol-free.



This Is Just the Beginning of Something Delicious

Reno's mocktail scene is an exciting testament to the evolving landscape of nightlife in the city. As more bars and lounges embrace the trend, patrons have the opportunity to explore a diverse array of nonalcoholic beverages that are just as creative and satisfying as their alcoholic counterparts. The rise of mocktails not only caters to nondrinkers but also enriches the overall drinking culture in Reno, fostering a more inclusive and enjoyable experience for everyone. So, the next time you're in Reno, consider stepping outside the traditional bar scene and indulge in the refreshing world of mocktails. Cheers to a vibrant and alcohol-free nightlife!

Black Rabbit Mead is located at 401 E. 4th Street in Reno, and is open 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, 4:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 1 p.m. to midnight Friday, noon to midnight Saturday, and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Photos courtesy of Black Rabbit Mead Company



“Too much of anything is bad,
but too much good whiskey is barely enough.”

- Mark Twain



Spring

Blooms

at **RANCHO
SAN RAFAEL**
REGIONAL PARK



Photos courtesy of Rancho San Rafael Regional Park

SPRING AT RANCHO SAN RAFAEL REGIONAL PARK AND MAY ARBORETUM IS A SENSORY FEAST FOR THE



As the winter chill departs and the days grow longer, Reno's Rancho San Rafael Regional Park and May Arboretum burst into vibrant life. Spring paints the landscape with an explosion of colors, tempting residents and visitors alike to immerse themselves in the season's bounty. From February to April, the park becomes a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, offering a unique blend of natural beauty, historical charm, and educational opportunities.

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN BLOSSOMING BEAUTY

At the heart of the park, you'll find the Wilbur D. May Arboretum & Botanical Garden transform into a blossoming paradise. February marks the arrival of early bloomers like the delicate snowdrops and cheerful daffodils. As March unfolds, the landscape is painted with vibrant splashes of color from Japanese magnolias and flowering cherries. April showers bring forth nature's symphony of colors, and azalea bushes fill the air with their sweet fragrance.

Soul
by Arianne Manuel

UNWIND AND RECONNECT WITH NATURE

Step beyond the blooms and discover the park's network of trails, weaving through meadows and woodlands. A stroll through the Botanical Garden truly celebrates nature's renewal with all its themed gardens.

Starting with The Labyrinth, this seven-circle Santa Rose Labyrinth is the perfect place for healing and meditation. The Kleiner Oak Grove has a diverse collection of native deciduous hardwood trees, including shingle and sawtooth oaks, as well as buckeyes and other eastern species. End your stroll at the Irwin Overlook, perched on a knoll at the north end of the Arboretum and featuring a breathtaking view of the park and the Sierra mountains.

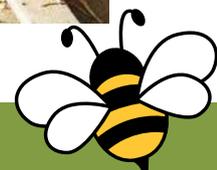
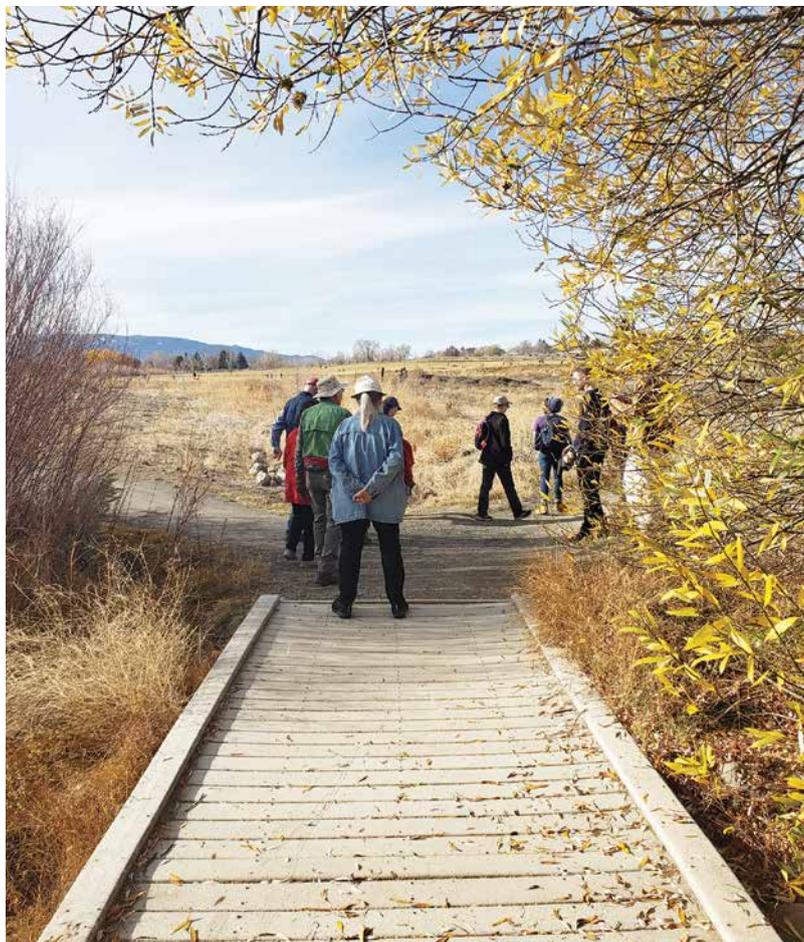
For a unique perspective, consider a guided nature walk. These informative excursions provide fascinating insights into the park's ecology, history, and cultural significance. Learn more about the flora and fauna that make Rancho San Rafael their home, discover hidden gems within the park, and gain a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

EMBRACE HISTORY AND CULTURE

Beyond the vibrant blooms and majestic landscapes, Rancho San Rafael offers a wealth of historical and cultural treasures. Nestled within the park, the Wilbur D. May Museum houses a fascinating collection of artifacts and exhibits that tell the story of the region, from its indigenous roots to its transformation into a bustling city.

Step back in time and explore the lives of the indigenous peoples who once called this land home, and trace the journey of the May family, whose legacy continues to shape Reno's identity.

Immerse yourself in interactive exhibits that bring history to life. The May Center offers a vibrant hub for cultural and educational events throughout the spring. From art workshops and musical performances to lectures and demonstrations, the center provides opportunities for learning, engagement, and community connection.



Rancho San Rafael Regional Park and the Wilbur D. May Center are located at 1595 N. Sierra Street in Reno. The Wilbur D. May Center is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.



SPRINGTIME CELEBRATIONS

Spring at Rancho San Rafael is not just about natural beauty; it's also a season of joyous celebrations. The park hosts a variety of springtime festivals and gatherings. From Earth Day celebrations with activities that promote sustainability and environmental awareness to cultural festivals that showcase the region's rich tapestry of traditions, music, and dance, there's something for everyone.

PLAN YOUR SPRING ADVENTURE

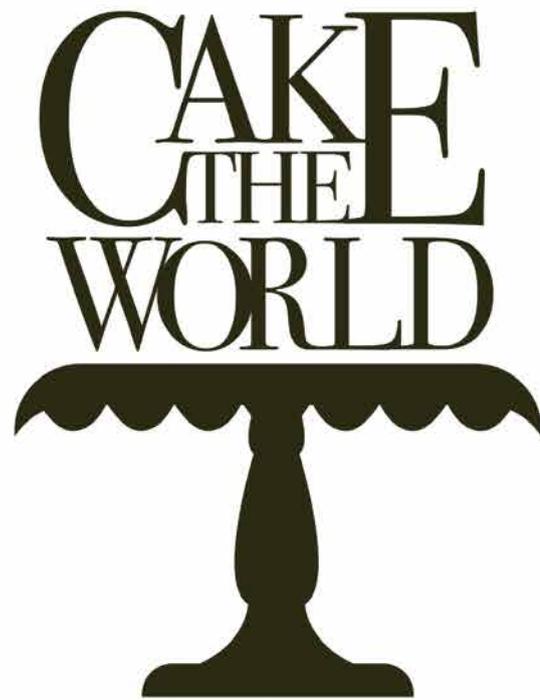
Pack a blanket and a delicious picnic basket and find your perfect haven amidst the park's enchanting landscapes. Savor your meal surrounded by the gentle sounds of nature and the vibrant hues of spring.

Whether you're seeking vibrant blooms, tranquil trails, historical treasures, or festive events, Rancho San Rafael Regional Park and Arboretum offers a unique and enriching spring experience. With its abundance of natural beauty, historical significance, and diverse offerings, the park provides the perfect escape from the ordinary, just be sure to wear comfortable shoes suitable for walking or hiking.

To optimize your spring visit, it's recommended to consult the park's website and calendar for updated information on blooming times, events, and guided tours.

As you explore Rancho San Rafael this spring, be sure to savor the sights, sounds, and smells of the season. Breathe in the fresh mountain air, lose yourself in the kaleidoscope of colors, and connect with the natural world on a deeper level. This haven in the heart of Reno promises an unforgettable experience that will rejuvenate your soul and leave you with lasting memories.





Within the vibrant corridors
of Peppermill Resort, a local
cake artist is redefining the
ART OF DESSERT

Brian Valencia, renowned for his breathtaking custom cakes, is a force to be reckoned with after clinching prestigious victories in two high-profile televised food challenges: HBO's *Baketopia* in 2021 and Food Network's *Holiday Wars* in 2023. His journey, from a young enthusiast to a celebrated culinary artist, is a story of passion, perseverance, and pure talent.

by Katie Silva



Growing up with a single mother, Valencia's childhood wasn't always easy. His culinary journey started in the family kitchen, under the watchful eyes of his grandmother. His early years were spent savoring the aromas of home cooking and dabbling in various creative pursuits, from drawing to building. Inspired by reality cooking shows such as *Cake Boss* and *Ace of Cakes*, a teenage Valencia found his calling in the world of baking. "Those shows opened my eyes to the endless possibilities in cake artistry," he recalls. The self-taught baker crafted his first cake at the age of 13, and now, at 26, his passion for baking continues.

It was in 2021, amidst the competitive heat of HBO Max's *Baketopia*, that Valencia first tasted victory. Competing against seasoned professionals, his talent shone through. "That win was a turning point; it proved that my self-taught skills could stand up to formal training," Valencia reflects with pride.

Valencia's next big win came in 2023, on Food Network's *Holiday Wars*. As a member of the team "Frost Bites," he helped secure a \$25,000 grand prize. Their creations, celebrated for their imaginative flair and technical precision, captivated audiences nationwide. "Winning *Holiday Wars* was like a dream. It was a culmination of years of hard work and a testament to our team's creativity," says Valencia. The finale was streamed at the Peppermill, where his win was celebrated by friends, family, and coworkers. Valencia was given a key to the city of Reno and a proclamation that declared December 17 "Brian Valencia Day."

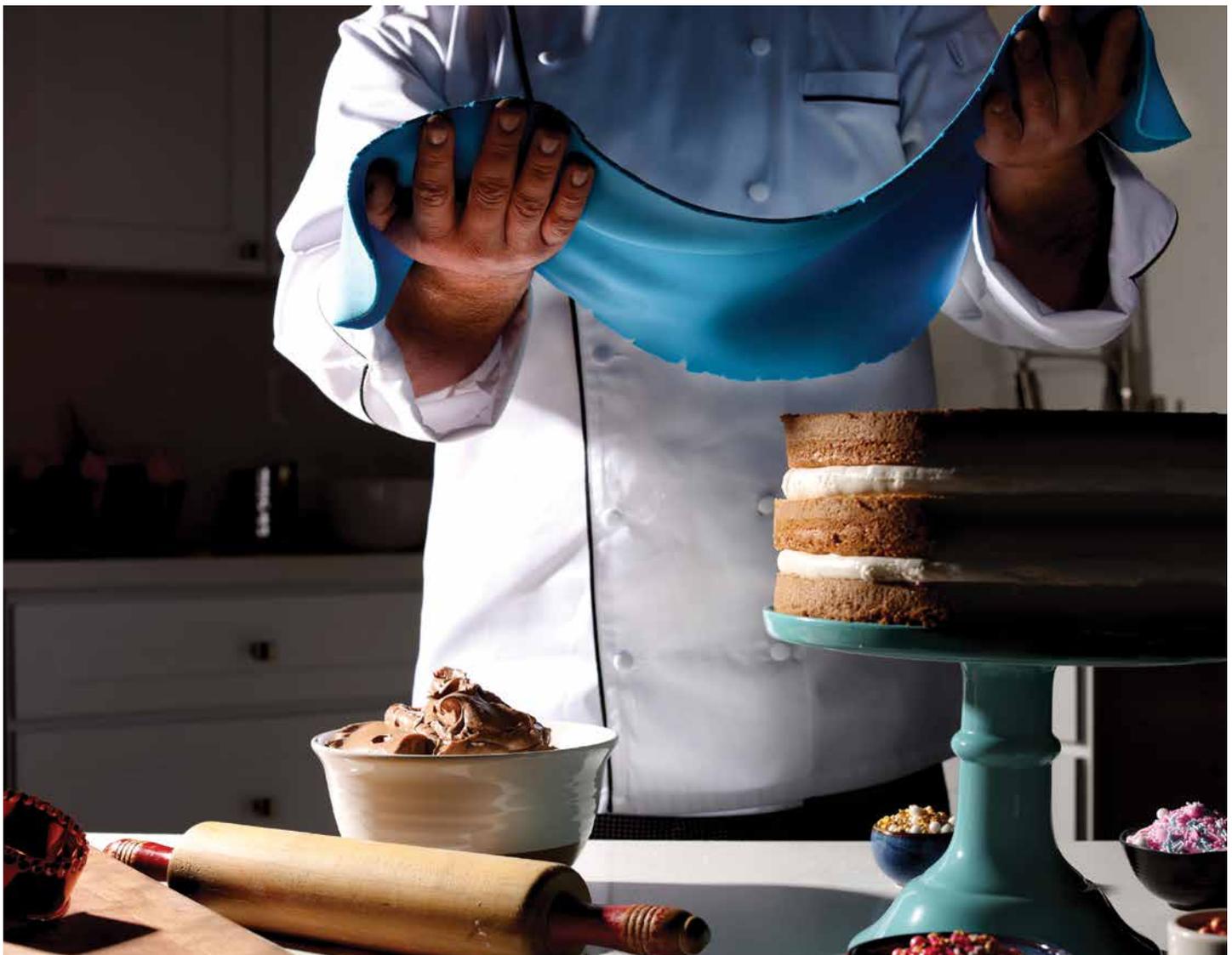




Behind Valencia's success is a rich family legacy. His great uncle, Angel Ibarra, a chef at Peppermill's Café Milano for 31 years, played a crucial role in his career, referring him to the Peppermill. "His encouragement was instrumental in my growth," Valencia says.

After working at the Peppermill for almost a year, Brian acknowledges his new role has been a balancing act, juggling the energetic environment with the meticulous art of cake decorating. The challenge of working in a fast-paced resort like Peppermill while maintaining the integrity of his artistic vision is not lost on Valencia. "It's about finding that sweet spot between complexity and feasibility," he explains. Ensuring each cake is a reflection of his passion remains his priority.

Brian showcases many of his cake masterpieces on his Instagram page, Caked by Brian. His feed is a vibrant showcase of diverse creations – from whimsical edible gumball machines to intricately designed wedding cakes. Each image in this vivid collection reflects his artistic journey. Every cake tells its own story, marrying Brian's creative flair with his exceptional baking skills. "Every cake has a story. I strive to bring someone's vision to life, to make each occasion unforgettable," he explains. To keep his designs innovative and fresh, Brian follows the latest trends in the baking world, often drawing inspiration from the work of fellow bakers on social media platforms. This approach ensures his artistry remains at the forefront of contemporary cake design.





Despite his success, Valencia's journey hasn't been without challenges. "As an artist, I am my own biggest critic. Balancing creativity with practicality in a time-bound environment is tough," he admits. Valencia also speaks candidly about the initial lack of support and the mental hurdles he had to overcome. "Staying true to your passion in the face of adversity is crucial," he advises.

Valencia's creativity extends beyond the kitchen. A lover of painting, drawing, and car restoration, he believes these hobbies enhance his baking artistry. "Creativity is a muscle; the more you use it, the stronger it gets," he states. He's currently working on restoring a 1964 Oldsmobile Super 88, a project that mirrors the patience and precision required in cake decorating.

Reflecting on his experiences in televised competitions, Valencia highlights the mental resilience required. "Being in the moment, under the spotlight, is daunting. But it's about overcoming fear and trusting your skills," he shares. He recalls

the first episode of *Holiday Wars* as a particularly challenging yet enlightening experience.

For aspiring bakers, Valencia's advice is straightforward yet empowering: "Just go for it. Your biggest hurdle is often your own hesitation." His victories have not only bolstered his career but have also been a source of immense personal growth.

Looking ahead, Valencia harbors ambitions of becoming a pastry chef and eventually owning his bakery or cake shop. "I have a vision, and I'm committed to making it a reality," he asserts.

Brian Valencia's story is more than just a tale of culinary triumphs. It's a narrative of a young boy, inspired by his grandmother's kitchen, who grew up to enchant the world with his edible masterpieces. His journey underscores the power of self-belief, the beauty of creativity, and the sweet taste of success born from dedication and hard work. As he continues to push the boundaries of cake artistry, Valencia remains a beacon of inspiration, proving that with talent and tenacity, the sky's the limit.





BRÜKA THEATRE

Thirty Wonderful Years

SPRING & SUMMER 2024

THE BOOK OF WILL

The Enduring, Hilarious & Heartfelt Power Of The Bard

March 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 13(A), 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22 @ 7:30 PM SUN Matinees: March 10, 17* @ 2 PM

KEN LUDWIG'S MOON OVER BUFFALO

A Screwball Valentine To The Stage

April 26, 27 May 2, 3, 4, 8(A), 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18 @ 7:30 PM SUN Matinees: April 28 & May 5* @ 2 PM

SIDE SHOW – THE MUSICAL

The Search For Love & Acceptance Amidst The Spectacle Of Fame

June 21, 22, 26(A), 27, 28, 29 July 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20 @ 7:30 PM SUN Matinees: June 30 & July 7* @ 2 PM



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TOURING & PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

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WHAT IS MEAD?

Mead is made from honey and is believed to be the world's oldest alcohol. It was the drink of Vikings and is quickly growing in popularity again.



OUR STORY

Black Rabbit Mead Company was founded in Reno, NV by two local high school teachers, Jake and Will. In 2019, they went pro and built Nevada's first meadery!



OUR MEAD

Our cider-style meads are light, refreshing, and uniquely delicious! They're gluten-free, made from local honey, and then infused with different fruits, herbs, and spices so everyone can find the one they love!

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Antiques • Vintage • Costumes



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TWO LOCATIONS



299 E Plumb Lane @ Reno Public Market
Downtown 101 N. Virginia Street, Reno

MIDTOWN'S FAVORITE RUM & TROPICAL COCKTAIL BAR



RUM SUGAR LIME

1039 S. VIRGINIA STREET, RENO NV | RUMSUGARLIME.COM

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Photo courtesy of The Nest

RENO'S ENCHANTING VINTAGE WONDERLAND

by Mary Bennett

PILORE

A GUIDE TO THE CITY'S TREASURED SHOPS

NESTLED IN THE HEART OF NORTHERN NEVADA, RENO OFFERS A VIBRANT TAPESTRY OF VINTAGE SHOPPING EXPERIENCES THAT NOT ONLY SHOWCASES THE CITY'S ECLECTIC HISTORY BUT ALSO CONNECTS YOU WITH THE LOCAL CULTURE. FROM THE REMNANTS OF NATIVE HERITAGE AND THE GOLDEN ERA OF MINING TO THE GLITZ OF GAMBLING, RENO'S PAST HAS ATTRACTED DIVERSE PEOPLE FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY AND A HALF. TODAY, THEIR LEGACY LIVES ON IN THE CITY'S NUMEROUS VINTAGE AND ANTIQUE STORES, BRIMMING WITH TREASURES FROM YESTERYEARS AND UNIQUE LOCALLY CRAFTED ITEMS.



Photo courtesy of Junkee Clothing Exchange

A STROLL THROUGH RENO'S VINTAGE SHOPS AND BOUTIQUES PROMISES AN AFTERNOON FILLED WITH EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY. WHETHER YOU'RE ON THE HUNT FOR A DISTINCTIVE SOUVENIR OR SEEKING A THOUGHTFUL GIFT, THESE SHOPS, WITH THEIR ONE-OF-A-KIND ITEMS AND WELCOMING AMBIANCE, OFFER AN UNPARALLELED SHOPPING EXPERIENCE. CONVENIENTLY LOCATED WITHIN A FIVE-MILE RADIUS, THESE GEMS ARE EASILY ACCESSIBLE BY LYFT, UBER, OR TAXI.

JUNKEE CLOTHING EXCHANGE & ANTIQUE STORE

A staple in Reno's vintage scene, Junkee has graced the city for 16 years. Recently expanding from its MidTown roots to the new Reno Public Market and into the heart of downtown Reno with Uncle Junkee, owner Jessica Schneider and her team have played a pivotal role in revitalizing MidTown. The two-story Junkee houses an eclectic mix of vintage



Photos courtesy of Junkee Clothing Exchange

clothing, furniture, and antiques, while Uncle Junkee contains 20-plus vendor booths. Both provide a dynamic and ever-changing shopping experience, where customers can immerse themselves in a vibrant atmosphere, and dressing up and dancing to the music are part of the fun.

Junkee Clothing Exchange & Antique Store is located at 299 E. Plumb Lane in Reno, and is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

Uncle Junkee is located at 101 N. Virginia Street in Reno, and is open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.



THE VASSAR HOUSE

Specializing in vintage home decor and gifts, The Vassar House, created by the mother-daughter duo Harriette and Missy Allison, is a treasure trove of Americana. Reopening this spring at their charming bungalow, which houses The Lucky Star Gallery, The Vassar House is a testament to decades of journeying through America's backroads. Open seasonally, it's a destination not to be missed on your vintage quest.

The Vassar House is located at 221 Vassar Street in Reno, and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

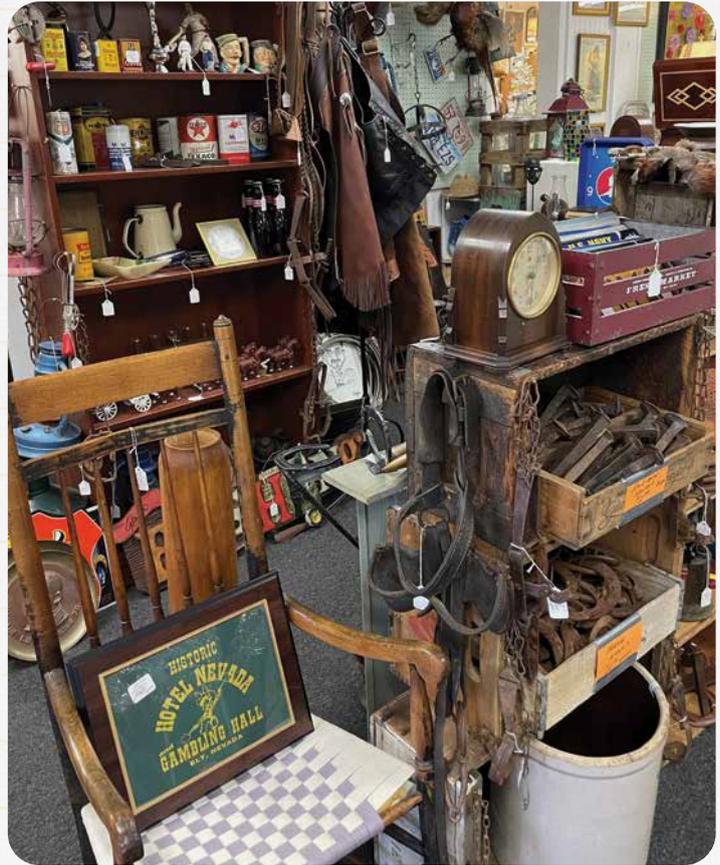


Photos courtesy of Vassar House

MIDTOWN ANTIQUES

Midtown Antiques located in Reno's midtown district is more than a store; it's a journey through time. This shop offers a curated collection of antiques that narrate stories from various eras and cultures, allowing visitors to delve into the past in a way that textbooks cannot capture. Midtown Antiques is an adventure for history enthusiasts, art lovers, and the curious alike.

Midtown Antiques is located at 1052 S. Virginia Street in Reno, and is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

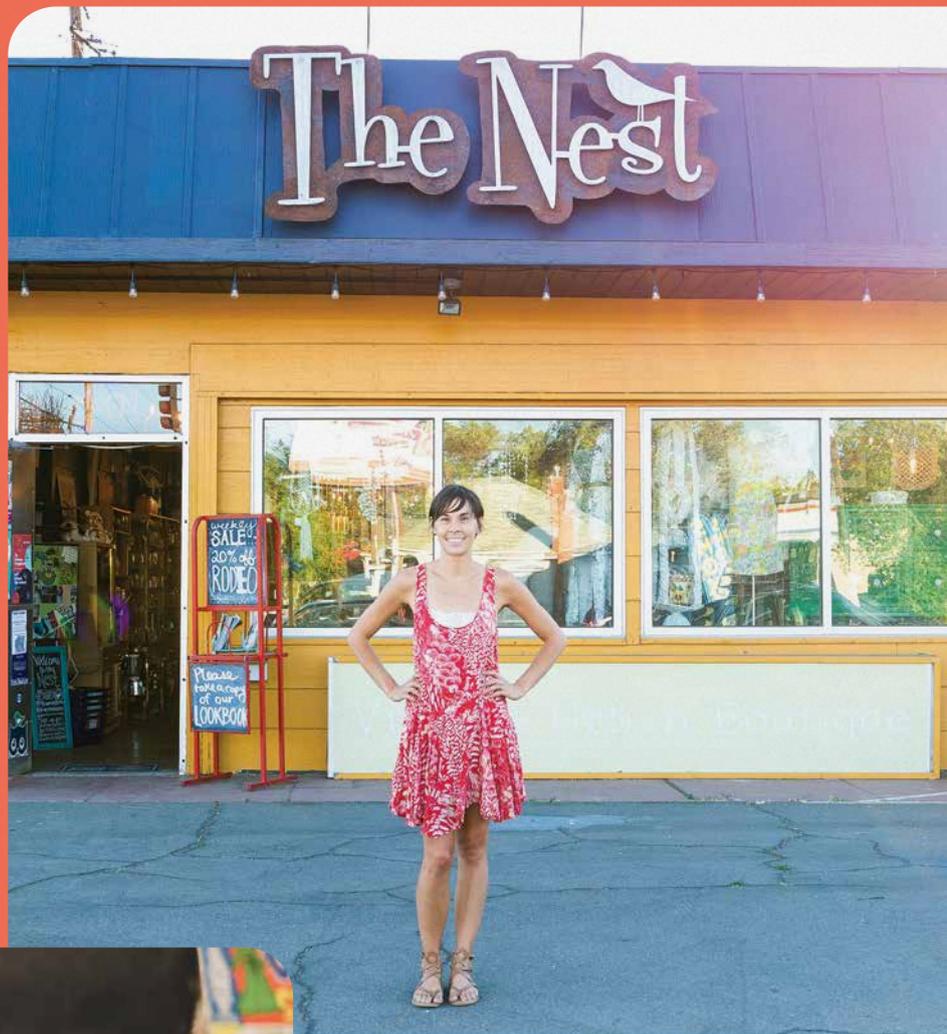


Photos courtesy of Midtown Antiques

THE NEST

Located off Keystone Avenue is The Nest, a 3,400-square-foot haven owned by Tessa D. Miller, that showcases a range of styles from boho to mid-century. Miller's keen eye for curation brings together a consistent stock of local, hand-made home products, creating a shop that's both eclectic and heartwarming. The Nest stands as a testament to both the power of community and sustainability in business.

The Nest is located at 201 Keystone Avenue in Reno, and is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.



Photos courtesy of The Nest



RENO'S VINTAGE SHOPPING SCENE IS A VIBRANT CELEBRATION OF HISTORY, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY. EACH STORE IS A GATEWAY TO THE PAST, OFFERING A UNIQUE GLIMPSE INTO THE STORIES THAT SHAPED THE CITY. WHETHER YOU'RE A LOCAL OR A VISITOR, TAKE A MOMENT TO EXPLORE THESE HIDDEN GEMS AND DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF RENO'S VINTAGE ALLURE.



The Nest

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March 2 through July 28, 2024

Sagebrush and Solitude:
**Maynard
Dixon**
in Nevada

Dixon's early wanderings and extended visits to Nevada, Lake Tahoe, and the Eastern Sierra are explored for the first time in this momentous exhibition and accompanying book.

N

NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts
E. L. Wiegand Gallery
160 West Liberty Street in downtown Reno
775.329.3333 | nevadaart.org

IMAGE: Maynard Dixon, *Wild Horse Country* [Humboldt County, NV] (detail), 1927. Oil on canvas, 26 x 30 inches. Collection of the Society of California Pioneers.

CURATED COCKTAILS &
BITES IN A UNIQUE
& WHIMSICAL SPACE.



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A graphic for Game Lab Arcade. At the top is a beaker with orange liquid and bubbles. Below it is the text "GAME LAB" in large, bold, black letters, with "ARCADE AT THE PEPPERMILL" in smaller letters underneath. To the right is a friendly-looking robot with a yellow body and a grey head. The background is a blue grid pattern with silhouettes of buildings and lab equipment.

Located on the 3rd Floor
next to the Parking Plaza

HOURS
Sunday-Thursday 9am-11pm
Friday & Saturday 9am-Midnight



Photos courtesy of the Nevada Museum of Art

DISCOVER

SAGEBRUSH AND SOLITUDE

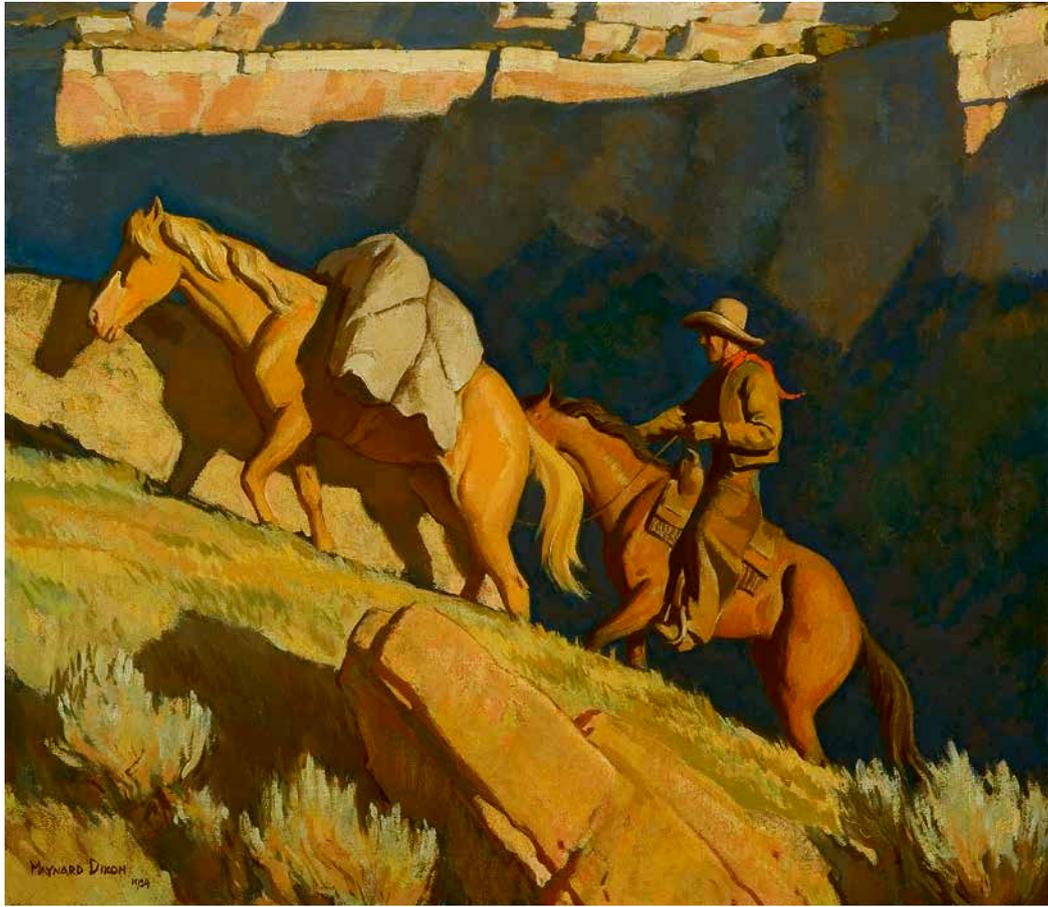
AT THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

by Rebecca Eckland
Nevada Museum of Art

IF YOU'VE COME TO RENO LOOKING FOR THE "OLD WEST" — WORKING RANCHES, COWBOYS, MOUNTAINTOPS, AND THE PEACEFUL SOLITUDE OF OPEN SPACES — YOU CAN FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ARTIST MAYNARD DIXON WHO WAS ON THE SEARCH FOR THESE VERY THINGS. DRESSED IN A STETSON HAT AND COWBOY BOOTS, DIXON BROUGHT MODERNISM TO THE SILVER STATE ON HIS HORSEBACK FORAYS INTO THE SAGEBRUSH-STUDDED LANDSCAPE.



From 1901 to 1934, Dixon left the comfort of his home in San Francisco to search for the simplicity, beauty, and solitude that could only be found in Nevada's open spaces. He painted, sketched, wrote poetry, and strove to capture old homesteads, wild horses, strands of cottonwood trees — those relics of a bygone time that were starting to vanish as these unique and pristine landscapes were turned into cities.



For the first time, you can follow in Dixon's footsteps in *Sagebrush and Solitude: Maynard Dixon in Nevada*, the first comprehensive look back at how this accomplished artist worked to preserve a world that was quickly disappearing. Through his many pieces — some of which will be on display to the public for the first time — Dixon articulates his sense of impending loss of the geography, history, folklore, and culture of the American Frontier.

From his first Nevada sketching trip with fellow artist Edward Borein in 1901, to his month-long commission documenting the construction of the Boulder Dam (now called the Hoover Dam) in Las Vegas in 1934, Dixon captured Nevada's striking beauty as well as its developing landscape in the face of a changing economy and world.

Experience the magic of the Old West through Dixon's eyes. Among Dixon's favorite places to paint were the northernmost regions of Nevada, not far from the Oregon border, where he depicted multiple views of Thousand Creek Gorge, Virgin Valley, and Alder Creek Ranch. Journey to Carson City, where he often painted the changing colors of poplar and cottonwood trees throughout the year, as well as venturing further afield to Lake Lahontan, Pyramid Lake, and the Eastern Sierra community of Lone Pine.

Through 150 striking paintings, experience the journey of how Maynard Dixon's modernism transformed and preserved the Old West. Saddle up at the Nevada Museum of Art, where the exhibition will be on display March 2-July 28, 2024.



THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART IS LOCATED AT
160 W. LIBERTY STREET IN DOWNTOWN RENO. FOR GENERAL
QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR VISIT, TICKET PURCHASES, OR ACCESSIBILITY,
PLEASE CALL 775.329.3333 OR VISIT NEVADAART.ORG.

OPEN 10 A.M. TO 6 P.M. TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY. UPGRADE YOUR VISIT
WITH A GUIDED TOUR, FREE WITH ADMISSION, OFFERED AT 2 P.M. FRIDAYS,
11 A.M. AND 2 P.M. SATURDAYS, AND 11 A.M. SUNDAYS.

ABOUT THE NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART

Founded in 1931, the Nevada Museum of Art (the Museum) is the only art museum in Nevada accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM).

Co-founded in 1931 by Dr. James Church, an early climate scientist, humanist, and lover of art, the Museum in its early days was run by a small group of outdoor landscape painters. As a result, the Museum has long understood the importance of examining how humans interact with their natural, built, and virtual surroundings. Designed by internationally renowned architect Will Bruder, the present Museum facility opened in 2003 at the heart of Reno's downtown Liberty district. The four-level, 70,000 square-foot building is inspired by geological formations in Northern Nevada's Black Rock Desert and serves as a visual metaphor for the institution's scholarly focus on art and environment.

The institution's identity continues to be shaped by the geographic location and environment. The Museum's proximity to the San Francisco Bay Area, the Sierra Nevada, Lake Tahoe, and the surrounding Great Basin Desert region places it at the nexus of both awe-inspiring scenery and a rapidly changing landscape. It is an ideal place for dynamic conversations about the ways that humans creatively interact with environments. This idea is reflected in the Museum's permanent collection, which is divided into four thematic focus areas: the Robert S. and Dorothy J. Keyser Art of the Greater West Collection, the Carol Franc Buck Altered Landscape Photography Collection, the Contemporary Art Collection, and the E. L. Wiegand Work Ethic in American Art Collection.



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