

2nd Saturday Art Night February 2018

According to legend, if it's sunny and Phil sees his shadow, the scared groundhog returns to his burrow and the U.S. will endure six more weeks of winter. We can only hope we get some winter this year. But winter does not stop us from having a great time strolling downtown Sonora on 2nd Saturday Art Night all year long.

This month offers a great line-up of musicians and art for you to enjoy as well as some great places to stop and drink and dine along the way.

Starting at the south end of town you can try out our newest restaurant, Winters Tavern. Have a bite to eat and then begin your stroll.

The first art gallery you will come across is The Aloft Art Gallery. Take a look at Mike Kiriluk's "Artist in the Window" display. Mike is a multimedia artist, mixing oil paint and found objects. Once you've taken in the window pop inside to see the gallery. Inside you will find beautiful works by the co-ops artists. This month starts a new year for the gallery and they are happy to welcome a new artist as well. Lynn Slade watercolor collage artist is new to the gallery and her work is of the highest quality.

Before crossing the street head upstairs to our newest gallery, House O'Beauty Art Salon. This month's show, "Spring Awakening: Pear cakes, rosewater, & a heart-shaped box." Artists featured are Mindy Calbert, Caroline Augusta, Megan Lynn Tucker, Angela Bulich, Kristan Roberson and Christine Halley. Spring Awakening is a group exhibition celebrating the first signs of spring and the ancient rituals and folklore that accompanied it for centuries past. Fertility and new life have long been honored during the month of February, first being the Roman feast of Lupercalia, dating back to the 3rd century, and later the Gaelic traditional festival, Imbolc, marking the beginning of spring. Both communities welcomed the new season with sacrifices to the Gods - offering cakes and soaking the Earth with milk, in hopes of a fertile spring for women, livestock, and crops alike. During this time the Earth was thought to be ripe with the promise of new life, seeds deep within the ground awakening, beckoning the return of spring. Come enjoy homemade scones and tea while being inspired by the warmth of new beginnings.

The Shenandoahs will be performing at the The Antique Attic. The Shenandoahs play 30's, 40's, 50's popular music, early 60's folk and classic country. They have played locally and regionally for the past couple of years but each of the band members has experience playing in bands for many, many years

Now, cross the street to listen to The Blonde Tells at Sonora Joes. The band plays Americana music and is comprised of Taylor Rose on base, Josh Weeks on guitar, Kelly Flynn and Lita Hope on guitar, keyboards and vocals.

Stop in for a glass of wine or a beer at the Sonora Tap Room and listen to the sweet sounds of Nathan Ignacio. Nathan hasn't graced our stages for quite some time so this is a treat. Nathan describes his music "Kind of folky kind of bluesy."

Back out onto Washington street stop in at Funky Junk to listen to "Stripped by Hippies." These musicians have many awards to be proud of. Last year, during the Lodi Grape Festival, Patrick and Tim took first place in the duo contest. Since then Tim also placed first in the original song category and second place in the vocal category at the 2016 Columbia State Park Fiddle & Bango contest and Ryan, the third member of the group, placed first in the guitar and miscellaneous categories and took overall gold at the Columbia Fiddle & Bango contest in 2016. Their style of music can be best described as acoustic Americana/Roots/Red Dirt. They play covers and original music using acoustic guitars, mandolin, banjo, dobro and bass.

Ricard "Tater" Learned will be performing at Mountain Home Gifts. He will be doing what he calls his Pan-Americana set. This set will be, primarily, originals in spanish and english and latin american music.

Now you will cross the street again to find the DMV Trio at Joan's Boutique to hear the sweet songs of this acoustic trio consisting of Doug Parrish, Michael Severin, and Virginia Sutherst.

Drop into the Ventana Gallery. Enjoy the continued works of the many artists in this gallery and then walk upstairs and take in the "Diane Porter" show.

Now you will walk and a bit further uptown for our last stop at Downtown Shoes to listen to Will Kiel on guitar. Will is an accomplished guitar player and has recently opened "Keil Music" a wonderful new addition to our community. Kiel Music is a small team of professional musicians and educators who share a passion for music making. It is their mission to provide their students with high-quality music instruction and inspirational performance opportunities, to encourage students and fellow staff in their musical, artistic, and personal development and to elevate the role of music in our community.

One last stop, look for the banner, up N.Washington...The VFW Veterans Museum will be open. If you have never been in the museum it is a must see and this is your perfect opportunity!

2nd Saturday Art Night is an event sponsored by the Sonora Chamber of Commerce working in partnership with local government, businesses, galleries and the performance arts, each month we celebrate our region's inspiration and its creative spark.

If possible bring along a little extra bounty to put in the tip jar for our musicians. They play for those tips and we count on them to help make 2nd Saturday's special. Go to our website at 2ndsaturdayartnight.org to print a guide for the month, find out more about our musicians and our merchants and most importantly help you to enjoy your stroll!