

Massachusetts

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Merrimack Valley Fall Attractions:

Lowell Citywide Open Artist Studios, September 26-27, 2009, 11 am – 5 pm

More than 100 artists open their studios to the public for this annual event. There will be a free shuttle running between studios. For more information go to www.lowellopenstudios.org, 978 349-8069. Free.

Lexington Fine Arts & Crafts Festival, September 26-27, 2009, 11 am – 5 pm

The Lexington Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring its sixteenth annual Fine Arts and Fine Crafts Festival on the lawn of the Visitors Center, at 1875 Mass Ave., Lexington, MA. Browse and purchase the work of fine artisans from all over New England. Free. <http://www.lexingtonchamber.org/events.php>

Massachusetts Poetry Festival, October 16-17, 2009

This year's festival is set for Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17, and again will offer readings, workshops, performances, and panel talks, as well as the popular small press fair. Last fall, the first festival brought more than 2,000 people to the activities that showcased writers from cities and towns across the state. <http://masspoetry.org/>

Baystate Marathon, October 18, 2009

Beginning at Lowell's Tsongas Arena and ending at LeLacheur Park, the Bay State Marathon is the state's second largest road race after Boston. Entrance fee for runners; viewing free. 978-263-5510. <http://www.baystatemarathon.com/>

Witch's Woods, October 1-31, Thursday-Sunday Eves.

Nashoba Valley Ski Area, Westford. The Greater Merrimack Valley's original holiday scream park featuring the Haunted Hayride, Castle Morbid, Keeper's Crypt and the Jack O'Lantern Jamboree. <http://www.witchswoods.com/>

UMass Lowell University Gallery – *Genii Loci (Ghosts of Protection)*, September 2-25, reception September 9, 3-5 PM. A solo exhibition by Jim Jeffers, features intermedia work coping with place; and the securing, knowing, comforting, building, improvising, deconstructing, reconstructing, and creating living / livable space in contemporary environments. <http://www.uml.edu/dept/art/galleries/university-gallery.htm>

Lowell Summer Music Series: Hot Tuna, September 4, 7:30 PM, Boarding House Park, 40 French Street, Lowell. <http://www.lowellsummermusic.org>

Lowell Summer Music Series: Tom Rush, September 5, 7:30 PM, Boarding House Park, 40 French Street, Lowell. <http://www.lowellsummermusic.org>

Merrimack Repertory Theatre, *Flings & Eros* by the Flying Karamazov Brothers, September 10 – October 4, World Premier--Join the internationally renowned Flying Karamazov Brothers for an evening guaranteed to resound with music, dance, emotion, unexpected hilarity, and of course, juggling. <http://www.merrimackrep.org>

Merrimack Repertory Theatre, *The Seafarer*, October 15 – November 8, Nominated for four Tony Awards, including Best Play, this hilarious and chilling tale of the sea, Ireland and redemption brings old friends together on Christmas Eve for an all night, liquor-soaked game of poker with damningly high stakes. Steeped in Irish myth, the play is both darkly funny and surprisingly uplifting. <http://www.merrimackrep.org>

Lowell Summer Music Series: 30th Annual Banjo and Fiddle Contest, September 12, 7:30 PM, Boarding House Park, 40 French Street, Lowell. <http://www.lowellsummermusic.org>

Lowell Summer Music Series: Gaelic Storm, September 18, 7:30 PM, Boarding House Park, 40 French Street, Lowell. <http://www.lowellsummermusic.org>

UMass Lowell University Gallery – *Blooms, Efflorescence and other Dermatological Embellishments*, October 5-30, reception, October 7, 3 – 5 PM, In Blooms, Efflorescences and Other Dermatological Embellishments skin diseases are replicated and transformed through illustration, jewelry objects and photography. <http://www.uml.edu/dept/art/galleries/university-gallery.htm>

Lowell Memorial Auditorium, *Champions of the Dance*, October 30, 8 PM. Professional ballroom dancing. <http://www.lowellauditorium.com/>

Lowell Memorial Auditorium, *Foreigner*, October 17, 8 PM. <http://www.lowellauditorium.com/>

Paul E. Tsongas Arena, DJ Tiesto in Concert: Kaleidoscope World Tour, October 1, 8 PM, Tiesto's first arena event in New England. Come See electronic music reach a Milestone! <http://www.paultsongasarena.com/>,

New England Quilt Museum, *Master Pieces: Haberdashery Textiles in Antique Quilts*, September 24 - November 15, Opening Reception & Laura Fisher Lecture: September 26, 1 PM. <http://www.nequiltmuseum.org>

Brush Art Gallery and Studios, *HERDING CATS: A Juried Exhibition to Benefit Homeless and Feral Cats of Greater Lowell*, September 26 – October 24, A juried exhibition of cat-related artwork. The Brush Art Gallery and Billerica Cat Care Coalition (a no-kill organization) will collaborate on this joint fundraiser. <http://thebrush.org/>

Annual Lowell Celebrates Kerouac Weekend, October 1-4. The 23rd annual Lowell Celebrates Kerouac! Featuring tours of Kerouac's Lowell places including many places described in his Lowell-based novels. <http://www.lowellcelebrateskerouac.org/>

7th Annual Jack Kerouac 5K Road Race, September 27, 10 AM, Registration begins at 10 AM, race at 12 PM sharp. \$20 pre entry, \$25 race day. Entry fee is non-refundable. Race Begins at: Hookslide Kelly's, 19 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA.
<http://www.jackkerouac5k.com/>