

Central MA - Group Friendly Events – Calendar 2013

Worcester Art Museum's Free Summer Admission

The Worcester Art Museum will have free admission for the summer months of July and August- bring your friends and family for great exhibits, events and more. For more information, visit www.worcesterart.org/Events/free-summer-2013/

EcoTarium's Jazz at Sunset Summer Concert Series

The EcoTarium announces *Live at Sunset*, a new name for a legendary summer concert series that offers a fresh mix of musical styles, while building on the success of its long-running Jazz at Sunset series. Now in its 22nd year, live music on the EcoTarium grounds is a Worcester tradition and one of Central Massachusetts' most popular summer events - thanks to its casual atmosphere, multi-generational appeal, and dynamic range of nationally acclaimed performers and local legends. For more information, visit www.ecotarium.org

Fitchburg Art Museum - 78th Regional Exhibition of Arts & Crafts

June 23, 2013-September 1, 2013

The Fitchburg Art Museum's 78th Regional Exhibition of Art & Craft is one of the oldest juried exhibitions of its kind in New England. Artists and crafters who live within approximately 30 miles of Fitchburg, together with FAM members across the globe, may submit their work for consideration. The exhibition includes artwork from all media and strives to encourage, discover, and display the talents of artists working regionally, as well as those who believe in FAM and its mission. In keeping with a newly established Fitchburg Art Museum tradition, the First Prize winner of the 78th Regional Exhibition of Art & Craft will receive a solo exhibition in the summer of 2014. For more information, visit www.fitchburgartmuseum.org

Fruitlands Museum: Summer Gallery Exhibit Opening: Jodi Colella

Saturday, June 29 1PM

FREE with museum admission

Our featured summer gallery exhibit will be by our 2013 Artisti-in-Residence, Jodi Colella. Come listen to Jodi present a talk about her work and mingle afterward, enjoying light refreshments.

July 2013

MA Symphony Orchestra Outdoor Concert Series

July 3, July 13, July 20

The Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra will perform three *free* outdoor summer concerts this July, marking the ensemble's 63rd consecutive season of open-air concerts in Worcester. For the

second consecutive year, title sponsor of the series is Charter and Charter TV 3. The performances kick off with the Symphony center stage at East Park on Shrewsbury Street for Worcester's annual Independence Holiday Celebration on Wednesday, July 3, at 8:00 PM. Other concerts of the series include a "Salute to Disney" on Saturday, July 13, at 7:00 PM at Worcester's Institute Park and "Classics to Broadway" on Saturday, July 20, at 7:00 PM at Institute Park. For more information, call Paul Levenson (508) 754-1234.

Cars of Summer Classic Car Event

July 4-7, 2013

It has been a local tradition for 22 years for car enthusiasts and attendees to come to Green Hill Park for an annual 4th of July Car Show. This tradition will continue with a *new show* called Cars of Summer, and will have much greater attention to car focused entertainment and family friendly events. Throughout this four day event, enjoy live music, entertainment, vendors, hot air balloon rides, and a live antique auto auction! This event will take place **July 4-July 7, 2013** at Green Hill Park in Worcester, MA. For more information, visit www.carsofsummer.com

Fruitlands Museum: Concord Band Concert and Picnic Contest

Thursday, July 4, 5:30 Picnic Grounds Open, 7:00 Concert

Admission is per carload: \$10 Members, \$15 Non-members

Join us for a very special Independence Day concert of Americana music by the Concord Band. We will hold our annual picnic contest tonight so break out your best spread. Check our website for the three judging categories and start planning!

Worcester JCC Present's Circus Smirkus

July 13-14, Saturday 1pm & 6pm, Sunday 11am & 4pm

Circus Smirkus will delight you and your family with a new spin on the Wizard of Oz with acrobatics, highwire, clowns and flying monkeys! Group discount rates are available! The shows will be held at Wachusett Mountain in Princeton, MA. Adults: \$22, Kids: \$18 For tickets and more information call 1-877-764-7587 or visit smirkus.org.

Live at Sunset Concert Series

July 13, 20, 27. Gates open at 5:30pm

The Ecotarium will be hosting a new spin on its Jazz at Sunset Series featuring new mixes of music and artists. Bring a lawn chair and get ready for a night of fun. Food and drinks will be available inside the event. Visit www.ecotarium.org for more info.

The Brimfield Antique Show

July 14-19, September 3-8, 2013

The Brimfield Antiques Show began in the 1950's and has become the largest and best-known outdoor antiques show in the country. Running along Rt. 20 for a distance of a half-mile, it is filled with thousands of antique dealers and over 250,000 visitors traveling from all over the world. This show takes place July 14-19, 2013 in the town of Brimfield, MA. For more information, please visit www.brimfieldshow.com www.yankeecricket.com

Daylily Show at the Tower Hill Botanic Garden

Saturday, July

20, 2013 9am-4:30pm

The Daylily Exhibition is open to the public. Come see hundreds of the finest daylilies grown in New England, and enjoy various Speakers, Flower Arranging Demonstration, Flower arrangements featuring lilies, and Potted lilies for sale. The Exhibition presents a wonderful opportunity to view the incredible diversity of daylilies, the most popular and easiest to grow perennial.

Cost: Included with admission to the garden, \$12 adult, \$9 senior, \$7 Children 6-18 E-mail: thbg@towerhillbg.org

Fruitlands Museum: An Herbal Walk and Wild-crafting

Sunday, July 21 1PM – 2:30PM

FREE with museum admission

Search for wild herbs with botanist and herbalist, Rachel Ross, and learn about the environmentally-sensitive practice of wild-crafting. Herbalist Angie Adams will present information on what parts of the plant to harvest, when to harvest them, drying processes, and much more. Come join us for this hands-on experience and let nature be your true guide! A very brief meeting of the Herbal Community of Central Mass will precede this program – all are welcome and encouraged to attend. Second in a series of three events focused on modern herbal practices inspired by the historic Shaker herb industry.

Fruitlands Museum: Simply Shaker Summer Storytime: Buttermaking

Thursday, July 24 11AM

FREE with museum admission but donations are welcome to offset materials cost.

Reconnect with traditions of the past during this hour-long story and craft program. Learn about the daily lives of Shaker children and try your hand at one of the chores that children had to master:

buttermaking!. Materials provided. Pack a picnic or enjoy lunch at the Museum Cafe. Limited to 30 children. RSVP requested education@fruitlands.org or 978-456-3924 x 239

Tower Hill Botanical Garden's Summer Concert Series

The

Tower Hill Botanical Gardens is pleased to bring you a Summer Concert Series beginning this June. The concerts include the well known blues band- Roomful of Blues on July 28, 2013 and popular singer and songwriter Livingston Taylor on August 9, 2013. For more information, call (508) 869-6111 or sign on to www.towerhillbg.org

Worcester's Art in the Park

July 27-

October 13, 2013

Public art has the

power to energize our public spaces, arouse our thinking, and transform the places where we live, work, and play into beautiful and welcoming spaces that invite pause and interaction. Public art can calm a hurried life, prompt strangers to talk and children to ask questions. Art in the Park, Worcester 2013, the first biennial and fifth year celebration of large-scale sculptures, artists, friends, families, and community in historic Elm Park, Worcester, MA opens July 27th, 2013. For more information, visit http://artintheparkworcester.org/AIP_home.html

August, 2013

The Bolton Fair in Bolton, MA

August 9-11, 2013

The town of

Bolton invites you to join their annual celebration of heritage, culture and community, as they provide good wholesome family fun, great entertainment, friendly competition and educational experiences for the whole family! The Fair is where friends, agriculture, education and creativity unite. The Bolton Fair will be open three full, fun-filled days - Friday, Saturday and Sunday - with a midway preview on Thursday night. Returning this year on the front field is a demolition derby on Friday evening and all weekend long you can enjoy the Tournament of Thrills Monster Trucks and Extreme Quad Challenge. For more information, visit www.boltonfair.org.

Worcester Latin American Festival

August 17, 2013

Enjoy live latin music on stage, latin cuisine, and children's activities and crafts at this festival held in Worcester, MA. For more information, visit www.worcesterlatinfestival.com.

Kenny Rogers

August 17, 12pm gate.

Enjoy an afternoon with Kenny Rogers lakeside at Indian Ranch. Gates open at noon and the show starts at 2pm. Visit www.indianranch.com for tickets and info.

Spencer Fair

August 29- September 1, 2013

The Spencer Fair has been going on for 125 years this summer. Come celebrate this milestone and enjoy the agricultural exhibits, farm animals, carnival, food, music, and live entertainment. Visit www.thespencerfair.com to find out more!

September, 2013

Blackstone CanalFest

September 7, 2013

This festival celebrates Worcester's Historic Canal District. Come enjoy food, kid's activities, wagon rides, music, and live performers. There will be even be a full size replica of the canal! To get more info head to www.blackstonecanalfest.org

Worcester Pride Parade

September 7, 2013

Come on down to the Worcester Pride Celebration and parade. The parade starts at Institute Park at 11am and makes its way to Worcester Common for a celebration at noon. This years theme is pride=equality, come on down and celebrate!

Wachusett Mountain's 16th Annual MusicFest

Sunday, September 8 12-6pm

Featuring *Badfish*, a *Tribute to Sublime*, and *Strange Machines* on the Main Stage. Enjoy a mountainside barbeque, unique vendor village and a car show. Check www.wachusett.com for additional band announcements and full details.

Charlie Daniels Band

September 8, 12pm

Come on down to Indian Lake in Webster to see the famous Charlie Daniels Band. Doors open at noon and the show start at 2pm. More info and tickets at www.indianranch.com

Wachusett Mountain's 23rd Annual KidsFest

Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29 from 10am-5pm

Two full days of fun activities for the whole family including clowns, magic and live music. For more information, visit www.wachusett.com.

StART on the Street

September 15, 2013

stART is Central MA's largest arts, music, and performance festival. Over 200 artists will be flocking to Park Ave for this giant festival. The festival will feature glass blowing, candles, jewelry, sculpture, woodwork, and many more. For more information visit

<http://www.startonthestreet.org/>

October, 2013

Global Harvest Festival:

October 5 & 6, 2013

Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Admission: \$10 per vehicle

Enjoy a festive celebration that features Heifer's Global Village where you can tour international homesteads, taste food from other countries, and meet the farm animals. Other hands-on

activities like churning butter, roasting coffee, and digging potatoes will be on-going throughout the day.

You can also hop on a hay ride to our pumpkin patch, eat a delicious, farm-fresh lunch, or bring your own picnic. Face painting, potato sack races, scavenger hunts and more family-fun activities and crafts packed into this globally themed and one-of-a-kind fall festival. Look for updates on our Facebook page.

For more information about Heifer Farm, review our [frequently asked questions](#), email heifer.farm@heifer.org, or call (508)886-2221.

North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival

October 5 and 6

Located in Orange, this annual festival features garlic, music, entertainment, and booths for arts and agriculture. The fun takes place 10 am to 5pm at Forester's Farm. For more details you can visit www.garlicandarts.org

American Civil War Reenactment in Worcester, MA

Coming this October 12 -13, 2013 to Green Hill Park, Worcester, Massachusetts...the second annual 'Living History' re-creation of 1860's American Civil War Era! Also added this year will be a Military era Ball at the Worcester Historical Museum.

This group of Civil War period reenactors donate their time, energy and money to come from all over New England to Green Hill Park for a weekend re-creation of the 1860's era. They camp out in the park where they encamp and set up a 'Living History' presentation that is open to the public. Many of the reenactors have been involved with this hobby-of-history for 30 years. They perform these 'reenactments' all over New England as well as down in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Florida, South Carolina, and other states.

This event is free to the public. For more information please visit <http://greenhillcivilwar.tripod.com/home.html>

Sturbridge Area Harvest Festival

October 19 and 20, 2013

This annual festival features crafts, artisans, food and entertainment. Located on the Sturbridge Common, 10am-5pm Saturday, and 11am-4pm Sunday. More details available at <http://www.sturbridgetownships.com/content/events.php?eid=9>

Wachusett Mountain's 30th Annual AppleFest

Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20 from 10am-5pm

Our traditional OctoberFest celebration featuring German music and food, nearly 100 farmers' markets and crafts vendors, and family-friendly entertainment and activities. Enjoy a N.E. Pie Contest, Giant Pumpkin weigh-off, and a Cider House 5k Walk and Run. For more information on activities and pricing, please visit www.wachusett.com

Wachusett Mountain's 4th Annual BBQfest

Saturday, October 26 and Sunday, October 27 from 10am-5pm

Enjoy a great BBQ, beer tent, live music, shows ,and kids entertainment area. Enjoy award winning food, a craft fair and farmers' market. For information visit www.wachusett.com

November, 2013

A Christmas Carol, with Charles Dickens' Great Great Grandson

Friday, 11/29/2013 at 7:30pm, and Saturday, 11/30/2013 at 2pm and 7pm

We are very pleased to announce that Gerald Charles Dickens will be performing his one man show of "A Christmas Carol" again this holiday season!

The Vaillancourt family is no stranger to Christmas and starting Christmas traditions. We invite you to start or continue the tradition of A Christmas Carol this year as Gerald Charles Dickens—Charles Dickens' great-great-grandson—returns to BOTH Blaxton Hall at Vaillancourt Folk Art in Sutton, MA and Mechanics Hall in Worcester, MA to perform his one-man version of Dickens' most famous stories. Mr. Dickens adopts different voices, expressions and mannerisms to portray each of the story's twenty-six characters in this acclaimed one-man show. Show time approximately one hour and is not recommended for children under the age of 8 years old. Join us for one of his spell-binding performances.

Old Sturbridge Thanksgiving Weekend

November 28- December 1, 2013

Come down to Sturbridge Village and see how they celebrated Thanksgiving back in the 1830s. Enjoy the scent of fresh Thanksgiving dinners prepared by the villagers. Visitors can also learn Thanksgiving history in the town church or from the Indian Doctress. Find out more at www.osv.org

December, 2013

First Night Worcester

December 31, 2013

Celebrate the year with the rest of the Worcester Community. Live music, food, and entertainment will be there for all to enjoy. More details at <http://www.firstnightworcester.org/>