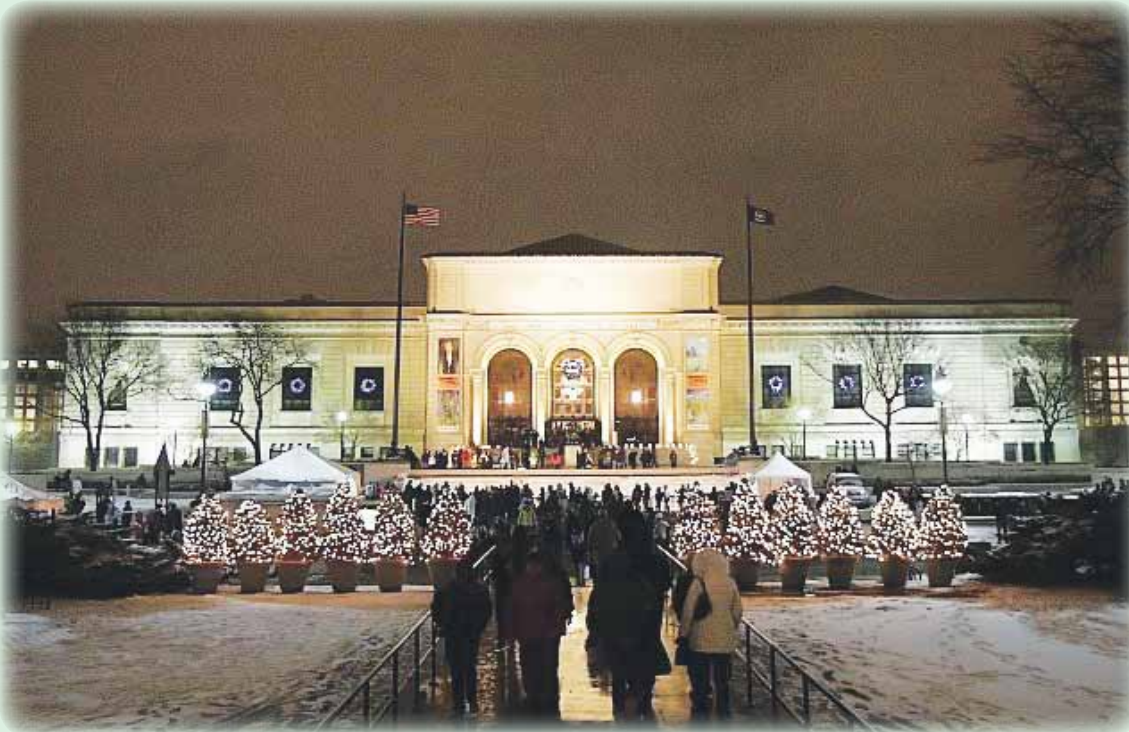


# DOWNTOWN MONITOR

## 44th Noel Night Will Brighten Up Midtown



The 44th Annual Noel Night will take place on Saturday, December 3rd, from 5:00-10:00 p.m. in Detroit's Midtown District. Over 70 institutions, including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Michigan Science Center, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Detroit Historical Museum, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the Detroit Public Library, will open their doors to the public free of charge during this Cultural Center-wide holiday open house. Activities include horse-drawn carriage rides, holiday shopping, family craft activities and performances by over 200 area music, theatre, and dance groups, and other special performances by Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings, Good Lovelies, Paul King and the Rhythm Society, Sonny Knight and the Lakers, and more.

The evening's festivities culminate with a community sing-along on Woodward Avenue led by the Salvation Army Band—a long-standing Noel Night tradition.

Noel Night activities take place in Midtown Detroit, and free shuttle service is offered between participating venues. Convenient parking is available in area lots.

Noel Night is produced by Midtown Detroit, Inc., a nonprofit community development organization that supports economic growth in Detroit's Midtown district.

Call 313-420-6000 or visit [noelnight.org](http://noelnight.org) for additional information.





## SHOWINGS

### Potters Market - Nation's Largest Pottery Sale in Southfield

One of Michigan's most popular art events, the 41st Annual Potters Market, the largest pottery sale of its kind in the country, will take place Thursday through Sunday, December 1 - 4, in its new home, the 17,000 sq. foot Southfield Pavilion. Admission and parking is free.

The Potters Market was held for over 30 years at the UF&CW Union Hall in Madison Heights but two years ago it moved to the Southfield Pavilion with overwhelming success.

Carol Fitzpatrick, Potters Market Co-Manager, said "Potters Market fans came out in droves to the Southfield location. The new facility is bigger and gives us the opportunity to add even more well-known Michigan, regional and new young potters to our roster."

Fitzpatrick added that a special new feature will be daily pottery demonstrations. Other improvements include more parking, a refreshment café, vending machines and ATM, and free coat check.

"If you are looking for that special handmade gift, this is the art show for you," said Fitzpatrick. "Every item is handmade in the U.S.A. and most often right in Michigan."

The pottery sale features more than 135 potters offering nearly 35,000 pieces of pottery ranging from pots, vases, platters, tiles and mugs to bird baths, jewelry, ceramic framed mirrors, sculpture, lamps, tile-topped tables and just about every product possible in clay.

One of the most endearing aspects of the Potters Market is that it's organized by the artists themselves as a collective. Artists organize the Market, man the check-out registers, stock shelves and help customers. In addition, each potter has their own fully stocked shelving area so that shoppers can see the full breadth of an artist's work at one time.

The huge selection of ceramics range from functional to decorative to whimsical and include products in stoneware, earthenware, porcelain, raku and smoke fired pottery of every size. In addition, a popular bargain feature of the sale is the bulk area. Pottery is priced from \$5 to \$30 - and nothing more costly. Typically more than 8,000 customers shop over the three-day weekend.

Hours for the Potters Market are Friday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, December 3 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, December 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because of the crowds no strollers are permitted.

A special preview and advanced sale of the Potters Market takes place on Thursday, December 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. Admission to the preview sale is \$10 at the door.



Pottery by Marilyn Appleman

For information call (248) 554-5570 or see thepottersmarket.com. The Southfield Pavilion is located in the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen Rd., between I-696 and 10 Mile, in Southfield.



Dragon Head by Thomas Harris

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## THE SPORTING LIFE



# Lions Ready to Play on Thanksgiving Day

George B. Eichorn

It's a Thanksgiving feast with all the trimmings – including first place in the NFC North – as the 77th Thanksgiving Day Classic is played November 24th at Ford Field. The hometown

Lions and rival Minnesota Vikings both enter the game with 6-4 records and tied for first place. Kickoff is slated for 12:30 p.m. on CBS/Channel 62 and WJR-AM 760.



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On Turkey Day in 1920, the tradition of pro football on the national holiday started with 12 teams playing in six league cities. The first Lions' game this holiday occurred in 1934, dropping a 19-16 decision to the Chicago Bears, at University of Detroit Stadium. The first owner of the Lions, G.A. Richards, started the tradition of the Thanksgiving Day game as a gimmick to get people to go to Lions football games.

Coach Jim Caldwell has the 2016 club believing in themselves. All 10 games this season have been decided by seven points or less with Detroit winning six of those. Quarterback Matthew Stafford leads the league in fourth-quarter comebacks since the 2011 season. Last Sunday, the club came from behind to defeat the Jacksonville Jaguars, 26-19, at Ford Field. I will never forget the Lions-Vikings Thanksgiving game of November 27, 1969 at Tiger Stadium that I at-

tended with my friend Bill Bitonti, when the Purple People Eaters of Minnesota shut down Coach Joe Schmidt's Lions, 27-0, in a game played in the snow. The Lions hope for much better results this Thursday in their climate-controlled Ford Field. They are 36-38-2 all-time on the holiday.

Combined with the *Annual America's Thanksgiving Day Parade*, the Lions traditional game makes Detroit a number one destination for the holiday! Detroit's own Aretha Franklin, an 18-time Grammy Award winner, will sing the national anthem and the halftime show will be headlined by multi-platinum and international pop artist, Andy Grammer.

In the spirit of the NFL's 'Football is Family,' campaign, halftime will kick off with a video vignette telling the story of CB Darius Slay inviting Detroit P.A.L. athlete Chlik Hamilton and his single-mom to be

his guest for the Thanksgiving Classic Game. Slay surprised Hamilton at an October practice after he learned of Hamilton's work ethic and his mother's sacrifices to allow him to play football. Slay is providing Thanksgiving dinner to 23 single-parent families through his foundation.

Other Detroit Lions Thanksgiving family and community initiatives this week will include:

The team providing Henry Ford Health System with light pink and light blue infant Lions hats to be given to babies delivered from Sunday-Thursday at Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital. A Detroit Lions Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Ford Field, COTS & Detroit Lions Women's Association Thanksgiving dinner basket distribution, serving at Capuchin Soup Kitchen with Campbell's Soup and a turkey giveaway at Ford Field.

Reach George Eichorn at [geichorn@yahoo.com](mailto:geichorn@yahoo.com).

## SYMPHONIC NEWS



### Ruth's Music Notes...

Ruth Crystal-Zaromp

The Chamber Society of Detroit presented the Ehnes String Quartet this past Friday evening at the Lutheran Church on Gill Road in Farmington Hills. The quality of this quartet is undisputable. James Ehnes is a unique, world-wide renowned solo violinist and chamber musician from Canada. The program included works by Mozart, Bartok, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky. The colors of each composer provided for a growing, never ending enthusiasm. This program competed and excelled along any chamber event that I have heard recently. This venue is among the many activities in our area of its artistic director - pianist Pauline Martin.

On January 15 at 2 p.m. (Sunday), at the same venue, the Chamber Society of Detroit will be presenting Aaron Berofsky, Kathryn Votapek, Suren Bagratuni, Pauline Martin, and violist Haiji Kim, in music of Beethoven, Schumann, Mozart and Faure. Artist sponsor is Dr. Stanley H. Levy. Highly recommended.

**Kerrytown Concert House** is presenting the *Marathon Concert* as The Phoenix Ensemble's annual fundraising event. Performers sign up for time slots and gather pledges. It takes place on November 26-27. In this venue, the *Phoenix-Phest Marathon Headliner Concert* will take place on Sunday, November 27 at 4 p.m., with renowned pianist and University of Michigan Professor Emeritus Louis Nagel. Nagel will perform some of his favorite selections by Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms. Please visit



*The Fort Street Chorale Performs 'Messiah'*

the phoenixensemble.com for more information about the Phoenix Ensemble and how you can participate in the marathon.

**Michigan Opera Theatre** kicks off the holiday season with the return of *BalletMet's The Nutcracker*, with four performances Nov. 25-27 at the Detroit Opera House. The annual tradition features more than 80 local dancers, as well as the live Michigan Opera Theatre orchestra playing the classic Tchaikovsky score. This year, there will be live reindeer prior to performances, photos with Santa & Nutcracker, free samples of holiday ice cream courtesy of **Treat Dreams** in Ferndale, and the *Sugar Plum Parade* on stage following the performance. High school choirs singing in the grand lobby will perform at intermission. A free conversation with the artists begins one hour prior to each performance.

*BalletMet* will also give a master class on Saturday, Nov. 26 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. to beginner/intermediate ballet students. The class is free with a cor-

responding ticket to *The Nutcracker* or \$25 without. Pre-registration is required. More information is available at michiganopera.org/learning/dance-education.

As part of a yearly tradition, **Fort Street Presbyterian Church** (631 W. Fort Street at Third Street) will be performing Handel's *Messiah*. This performance signifies the changing of the guard - from longtime leader and Art Director Edward Kingins to the newly selected Musical Director Dr. Marilyn Biery, who has showed extensive knowledge and understanding of this music. Having spoken recently with Biery, she stated "It is an honor for me to conduct the Chorale in this performance of *Messiah* as they bid their Music Director and Founder, Ed Kingins, a fond farewell as he retires from Fort Street after fifty-four years of inspired and dedicated service." I believe that the performances at the church on December 3 and 4 at 3 p.m. will be more than well worth attending. Tickets are \$20.

For further information, call (313) 961-4533.

## DOWNTOWN MONITOR

Downtown Monitor is now in its 53rd year of continuous publication, and is circulated *free* throughout Downtown, and to all points of Greater Detroit.

**Paul Arlon — Editor & Publisher**  
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**CITY SCENE****Indian Village's Annual Holiday Home Tour**

Laydell Harper

**1090 Iroquois Avenue — One of the Tour Homes this Year**

The season for giving brings out the best in all of us, and throughout the day on Sunday, December 4, the **Indian Village Women's Garden Club** will once again hold their annual *Holiday Home Tour*. This extraordinary event offers a unique opportunity to view and enjoy five of the grand and elegant homes in Historic Indian Village.

Attendees will be able to tour five festively decorated historic homes for the tour this year. Along with touring the five homes, the entire Indian Village neighborhood can be seen by motor coach. Festive holiday attire is suggested. Tickets are \$40 per person. After the tour, attendees will

enjoy an Afterglow at a surprise location. Tours by motorcoach leave promptly at 1 p.m., 1:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. (the preceding tours are sold out, but the tours beginning at 3 p.m. still have tickets available), 3 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 4 p.m., from **Iroquois Avenue Christ Lutheran Church**, 2411 Iroquois Ave., at the corner of Iroquois and Vernor.

If you've never visited this elegant, historic community, the Holiday Tour is one of the best times to see this grand old neighborhood. Nestled in close proximity to Downtown Detroit, off East Jefferson, but far enough away from the hustle and bustle of the

city to really be a distinct neighborhood. The Village is an extraordinarily unique neighborhood of 352 elegant homes built between 1885 and 1966. Each home is entirely different and more inviting than the next.

The *Annual Indian Village Holiday Tour* is Sunday, December 4 and tickets are \$40. For the Tour, purchase tickets on-line using PayPal at: [historicindianvillage.org/holiday-home-tour/](http://historicindianvillage.org/holiday-home-tour/) or, purchase tickets by check payable to: Woman's National Farm & Garden Association. Mail checks to: WNFGA, 1823 Burns, Detroit, MI, 48214. For information contact: Renata Miller Taylor at [mill-er.renata@yahoo.com](mailto:mill-er.renata@yahoo.com).



## Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon



The Belle Isle Conservancy is hosting *Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon*, a fundraiser for the operation and maintenance of the historic Belle Isle Aquarium.

*Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon* will take place on Friday, December 2, from 8-11 p.m. at the Belle Isle Aquarium. The Conservancy invites guests to experience the grand reveal of its latest addition to its aquatic collection, red-bellied piranhas from the Amazon River, which have inspired the Amazon-themed evening.

The aquarium will transform with the essence of the lush Amazon jungle and the event will feature South American inspired small bites from 8-10 p.m. and beer, wine and specialty craft spirits.

Last year, the Belle Isle Conservancy was fortunate enough to garner so much support that the 3rd annual *Light Up the Aquarium* fundraiser sold out! With so many eager supporters, a new event began to take shape. The Conservancy's new *Deeper Dive* series of events will allow more guests than ever to experience the beloved Belle Isle Aquarium after dark.

"We are so excited to launch our new *Deeper Dive* event series at the Aquarium. The concept is to host such an event several times a year to celebrate new exhibits and to bring awareness to the variety of species that we house at the aquarium. This first *Deeper Dive* event will have an Amazon flare showcasing our exciting South American collection. Plus, at the event we will release details on a new exhibit coming in early 2017," said Fred Huebener, general manager of the Belle Isle Aquarium.

Advance tickets for *Deeper Dive: Bite of the Amazon* are \$40 for general admission, which includes two drink tickets and \$100 for VIP admission, which includes a 7:30 p.m. champagne preview and open bar privileges for the duration of the event. General admission is \$50 at the door. VIP tickets must be purchased in advance. Additional drink tickets will be available for purchase.

For more information and tickets see [belleisleconservancy.org/deeperdive](http://belleisleconservancy.org/deeperdive) or call (313) 402-0466. The Belle Isle Aquarium is located at 900 Inselruhe Ave. on Belle Isle State Park, off of E. Jefferson Avenue near E. Grand Blvd., in Detroit.

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## CAPUCHIN'S HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen's urban farm ministry, Earthworks Urban Farm, will be hosting a *Holiday Open House* Wednesday, December 14 to Friday, December 16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The event will be held at the Meldrum Capuchin Soup Kitchen site, 1264 Meldrum, Detroit 48207.

Products include local jams made with Earthworks berries, greeting cards, t-shirts, stickers and more. Volunteers at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen jammed jars of black raspberry currant, gooseberry, elderberry and grape jams. Call ahead to confirm selection, as some varieties sell out early. "With these products, we hope to give folks the opportunity to share Earthworks with friends and family and educate them on the work we do," explained Patrick Crouch, Program Manager of Earthworks Urban Farm.

"Buying locally produced and grown products help build strong communities," Crouch continued. "Purchases made at the Earthworks Holiday Open House help support the work of Earthworks and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the young people and adults that benefit from nutrition education, youth development and community and food-based entrepreneurship. Earthworks' goal is to help build leadership and ownership of the local food system."

The Capuchin Soup Kitchen's Earthworks Urban Farm works for a just, beautiful food system for all. Its gardens yield over six tons of produce each season from its 2.5 acre organic gardens, most of the produce goes into meals at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. With the community, Earthworks strives to create and sustain healthy relationships between human beings and the earth.

Earthworks Urban Farm, a program of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen can be contacted at (313) 579-2100 ext. 204 or earthworksdetroit.org.



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## CINEMA CULTURE



## Cutting 'Edge of Seventeen' is an A+

By Paul Arlon

The *Edge of Seventeen* is the story of a troubled teenaged girl, named Nadine. And, why is Nadine troubled? Well, let's take a cursory look at her family: Her doting father died four years earlier, her mother's life is an unsettled daily menu of anxiety drugs and desperate internet dates, and her older brother seems to have inherited a more generous split of social success genes.

Nadine (played by Hailee Steinfeld) is mired in a gray world not solely of her own making, but even still, without having developed a lot of coping tools.

Far more intelligent than she realizes, she's emotionally fragile, living the safe but uneventful middle class existence of a misfit. Since she was a little girl, she's always struggled to be accepted, jealous of her brother Darian (Blake Jenner) and his winning ways, and without a circle of friends to offer support. Except for Krista (Haley Lu Richardson) – Nadine's one and only friend. From first grade on they've been inseparable, and since her father died, Krista has been the only person in the world to whom Nadine can relate.

Her junior year in high school has become another



Hailee Steinfeld (L), is Nadine and Haley Lu Richardson is her BFF, Krista

exercise in drudgery, with no one new stoking any bright lights in Nadine's dark mental environment. Her social life consists of fixating on the school's standoffish bad boy, Nick (Alexander Calvert), who pays her no attention whatsoever, while in one of her classes, she's the recipient of some very nervous overtures from a smart but stuttering Korean nerd named Erwin. Needless to say, she is not the Belle of

the Ball.

The only other human in Nadine's small world that she will converse with, is her take-no-prisoners teacher, Mr. Bruner (Woody Harrelson). She and he have a special kind of relationship. She intrudes on his free time, and he, in turn, treats her as if she is a whiny, self-absorbed teenaged girl who exaggerates the scope of her problems. In other words, he's the drill sergeant in her life, giving her advice in a rough making-fun way that she won't get from anyone else. He doesn't treat her as the victim she thinks herself to be, in fact, just the opposite.

When her mother (Kyra Sedgwick), leaves for a weekend romp with a new-found dating site match-up, Nadine (mostly) and Krista hit the liquor cabinet. Darian, against Nadine's bitching, invites a few of his friends over, too. When the

booze catches up to her, Krista is there to take care of her. Nadine's best friend is gentle and loving toward her even in her worst of moments.

After the party breaks up, and Nadine passes out, Darian and Krista find themselves alone and after a dozen years, they finally, for the first time, really meet each other. And, this is where Nadine's story begins to completely spin out of control. Her best and only friend, and the brother who's always outshined her, are now a couple.

End of the world — Nadine falls into the very nadir of her young life.

If you've seen any of the John Hughes '80's teen angst movies, *Sixteen Candles*, *Pretty in Pink*, et al., or, just about any episode of *Beverly Hills 90210*, then you're familiar with the whole high school can't-possibly-get-any-worse kind of screenplay. But, *The*

*Edge of Seventeen* is different from most of the youth-themed films that preceded it— it's better.

Provocative and pithy with equal measures of sadness, joy and laugh-out-loud humor, this high school movie is in a class of its own.

Written and directed by Kelly Fremon Craig, and produced by James L. Brooks (of *The Simpsons* fame), this is one of the best movies of the year (or any other year), in my book. I didn't see one false scene, one pretentious phrase, or one bad anything else.

This movie hit every pitchy note of real life, like I haven't seen in a long time.

As a matter of fact, I wanted to watch this movie again as soon as its end credits rolled past me. I liked it that much.

Hailee Steinfeld is just terrific, and I would say this movie is certainly worth some industry notice as being her breakthrough role.

Woody Harrelson has been cast recently as a vicious and complicated police detective on HBO's *True Detective*; as Haymitch Abernathy in the *Hunger Games*, etc. etc. He's all over the place. But, his acting legacy may well be centered on his comedy roles. If timing is the key to comedy, Harrelson has a lock on it, here.

Kyra Sedgwick as Nadine's mom is very good. Haley Lu Richardson as Krista, and Hayden Szeto as the gawky but deceptively exceptional Erwin are also spot on, as is Blake Jenner, as Darian, Nadine's long-suffering all-star brother.

As soon as I walked out of theatre, I put *The Edge of Seventeen* on my Top Ten Movie list for 2016. I can't imagine that my list will change by the New Year.

FOUR STARS ★★★★★



Woody Harrelson is the Sardonic Mr. Bruner



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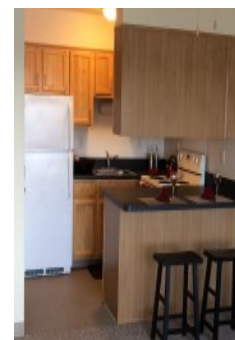
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