Internationally renowned drummer, Paa Kow, to perform with his Afro-Fusion orchestra July 22.

Warp Trio is not your typical trio. Don’t miss their free performance on July 26.

“Aurora Rhythms – They’ve Got Me – Let’s Dance!”

Warp Trio is not your typical trio. Don’t miss their free performance on July 26.
SUMMER OF LIVE MUSIC
with Aurora Rhythms –
Concerts on the Lawn

For more than three decades, the city of Aurora Cultural Services Division has brought fun times to evenings over the summertime with the summer concert series. This year, the tradition continues with yet another great line-up of diverse musical styles along with food trucks. Aurora Rhythms – Concerts on the Lawn will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays at the Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn, 15151. E Alameda Parkway.

Here’s what you can expect of the free summer concert series:

June 28 – Music by Mr. Majestyk’s 8 Track Revival and food by Karma Food Truck, offering Indian food. Mr. Majestyk’s 8 Track Revival was formed in 2013 by experienced Colorado musicians and defines itself as a musical tribute to the 1970s. The band says its song list was carefully curated to capture the “true essence of the ’70s and evoke great memories.” The Denver Westword listed this band on its 2016 Ten of the Best Cover Bands in Colorado. Learn more at MM8TR.com.

July 12 – Music by Cowboy Dave Band and food by Comforts of Home, offering all sorts of comfort food. The Cowboy Dave Band is known for embracing the hard-swinging honky-tonk country music style. After a successful career touring the country with the Nebraska-based band FortyTwenty, Dave Wilson moved to Colorado where, in 2009, he formed the Cowboy Dave Band. This band keeps busy performing in Texas, Colorado and surrounding states. Learn more at CowboyDaveBand.com.

July 19 – Music by Potcheen and food by The Cravings Truck, offering eclectic gypsy food. Although Potcheen band recently relocated to New York, it has its roots in Colorado. It was (unofficially) formed in Evergreen in 2003 and has since played over 3,000 shows all over the country. The band became Potcheen in 2007 and plays Celtic-pirate rock and folk music along with other genres including bluegrass, ska, reggae and Americana. Learn more at ThePotcheenFolkBand.com.

July 26 – Music by Warp Trio and food by California Wrap Runner truck, offering salads and gourmet sandwich wraps. Warp Trio, formed in 2014, is not your typical trio. It is an interdisciplinary collaboration of eclectic programming that includes original material, dynamic interpretations of popular music, improvisation and unique takes on the classical repertoire. Its members are accomplished musicians with impressive credentials and international experience. Learn more at WarpTrio.com.

All the concerts are free and open to the public. Eventgoers are welcome to bring their own food, blankets and lawn chairs. For more information, including event cancellation due to weather, visit AuroraGov.org/Concerts.
Deepali Lindblom was born and raised in India where she studied street theatre and traveled all over teaching it to the people in need and social workers. Then, she moved to Sweden with her husband where she worked in integration projects for refugees. A few years later, dancing took her to Montreal where her professional career as dancer/choreographer ignited. There, she also created the first Tibetan-Canadian dance theatre company and participated in professional theatre. She also choreographed thousands of people, many with no experience, into Bollywood dance flash mobs.

About three years ago, Lindblom moved to Colorado where she worked in different theatre companies before founding Roshni, an arts organization whose vision is to use art to promote inclusion, solidarity and empathy. Roshni is housed in the Aurora Cultural Arts District.

AC: How did you first get interested in the arts?

DL: Because of my vanity, my sanity and my humanity: My vanity. Growing up, I felt (like I was) standing on the outside, looking in. While dancing or teaching, I was the center, surrounded by passionate people who cared. The standing ovations helped too. My sanity: art is my connection with myself and the world. The realization that together we create magic and meaning is incredible; this fantastic rush of togetherness urged me on. My humanity: animals live, humans thrive. And for me, art gives, defines and shapes my purpose of existence by giving me a purpose. Through my art projects with Roshni, I can be and give voice to the voiceless.

AC: What are some of your current projects in Aurora?

DL: Besides regular dance classes at various places, we have four new projects: “Lullabies,” for mothers with their babies/toddlers (each week, they sing/teach a lullaby from their country of origin and then all learn an English lullaby; “Hi, How are You?,” where students learning English at the New American School make short plays using the medium of street theatre; “I Arise,” an arts project for mothers where using theatre and storytelling the mothers create short plays about the issues they want to highlight; and “InTandem, a flash mob of empathy.” This project takes a new form as we add new dance styles such as Hip hop, Latin, African, Nepali and Baladi, and make it more inclusive.

AC: What are your hopes for Aurora’s artistic development?

DL: First, I wish we could have a performing arts center in north Aurora that will represent all local cultures and artistic traditions and that could offer classes to one and all in the performing arts like world dances, theatre, storytelling, etc. A center like this would represent the spirit of the diversity, forming the backdrop of richly layered potentials and creative collaborations, a sense of affinity despite being different.

Also, I hope we can work to identify, recruit and train our potential artist residents with professional guidance and support as well as create new and quality works of arts that all can have access to. We need to support long-term artistic projects and enterprises to build bridges between neighborhoods, communities, haves and have-nots.
For adults:
• Introduction to Zentangle
• Polymer Clay
• Classic Still Life in Oil

Youth Theatre:
• Percy Jackson
• Superheroes
• Afternoon at the Improv

Mondays • June 4 – 25
Lullabies, multicultural songs for folks with babies and toddlers
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
InTandem - Summer Dance Camp,
HipHop, Bollywood, African, Latin and Baladi
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Roshni

Monday - Friday • June 11 – 23
Summer Intensive Company Project professional level master classes,
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kim Robards Dance

Monday - Friday • June 25 – 29
Young Dancers’ Summer Intensive
10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Kim Robards Dance

Monday - Saturday • July 19 – 28
Summer Intensive
1 – 5 p.m.
Aurora Dance Arts

Tuesday - Thursday • July 24 – 26
History Camp
8 a.m. – noon
Aurora History Museum

DRAMA AND ENGLISH
Language Learners

Our Spotlight feature in this issue is Deepali Lindblom, an immigrant from India, who uses the arts for a variety of social development purposes, including the development of English language skills.

The research supports her work: Drama is an effective strategy in second language (L2) classrooms first, because drama allows teachers to create situations that are relevant to L2 students, and when that happens motivation improves leading to improved learning outcomes. Second, drama helps L2 learners enhance their self-esteem, and there is a predictive correlation between a language learner’s self-esteem and his/her L2 speaking ability. Third, L2 learners who are afraid of what others may think of their less-than-perfect command of the language will be inhibited to try. By allowing L2 students to “hide” behind a character or a puppet or a mask, using drama in L2 classrooms reduces L2 learners’ sensitivity to rejection. Finally, because drama is a collaborative effort, using drama in the classroom helps to create a sense of “esprit de corps” which helps L2 learners see their native English speaking classmates as cheerleaders rather than tormentors.

ACCEPTING
Applications for Art in Public Places Commission

The Art in Public Places Commission is currently accepting applications. This commission is composed of nine members, all of whom must be Aurora residents and registered voters and are appointed by the Aurora City Council for a 3-year term. The function of the commission is to administer a public art policy applicable to public areas in public buildings, outdoor areas and parks within the city. Commissioners also help plan related events and art dedications, communicate with city council members, sit on art selection panels, select sites for art and participate in the develop of the 5-year public art plan.

Those interested should submit applications by June 15 for consideration to fill terms expiring Aug. 31. Download the application at AuroraGov.org/Boards.
EL SALVADOR EXHIBIT

coming to Aurora History Museum

The Aurora History Museum, Aurora Sister Cities International and the city of Aurora Office of International and Immigrant Affairs will celebrate Aurora’s Salvadoran population with a new exhibition, “A Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora’s Salvadoran Community,” set to open June 19 and running through Nov. 4.

The goal of this exhibit is to educate the public about the Salvadorans living in Aurora as well as highlight individuals, businesses owners and their cultural traditions and history.

Aurora is home to more than 3,000 Salvadorans, constituting the third-largest foreign-born population living here. This unique community tremendously impacts the cultural fabric of our city. Salvadorans who call Aurora home come from all walks of life and have their own individual stories of immigration or growing up in the U.S. Those who moved to Colorado have brought traditions and values that continue to be passed on to new generations. Several characteristics of this culture are present throughout the city. “A Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora’s Salvadoran Community” will explore these characteristics, such as music, art, dance, religion and foods.

The exhibition will also highlight the 2017 opening of El Salvador’s consular office in Aurora, the only consulate operating in Colorado outside of Denver. The diplomatic office was the culmination of over two years of work by Aurora and Salvadoran policymakers, which included a trip by Mayor Steve Hogan to the Central American nation. In addition, the work led to a 2016 friendship city agreement between Aurora and the Salvadoran city of Antiguo Cuscatlán.

By exploring the impact of Salvadorans in Aurora, the Aurora History Museum hopes to showcase this very vibrant and important aspect of our community.

Additional programs related to “A Mosaic of Cultures: Aurora’s Salvadoran Community” will be added. Visit AuroraMuseum.org to stay up to date.

Admission to the Aurora History Museum is always free. For more information, call 303.739.6660 or visit AuroraMuseum.org.
Aurora Dance Arts presents “Icons of Music” Dance Recital
7:30 p.m. $ Hinkley High School
1250 Chambers Road

DeLaney Farm Historic District Open Days
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Summer Fiesta
4 – 6:30 p.m. $
Nueva Escuela De Música
The People’s Building

House of Poetry featuring Henok Wolde
7 – 10 p.m. $ 5280 Artist CoOp

Opening Performance: “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”
10 a.m. $
Aurora Fox Arts Center

Lecture: Art Therapy Association of Colorado
Noon $
Aurora History Museum

Opening Night: “The Bridges of Madison County,” the Musical
7:30 p.m. $
Vintage Theatre

Polynesian Arts and Culture Programs
11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Aurora History Museum

Music Lab featuring Pianist Michael Chipman & Friends
7 – 10 p.m. $ 5280 Artist CoOp

Summer Intensive Company Project Culminating Performance
7:30 p.m. $ Kim Robards Dance

Tunisia in Concert & Hoagie Night
6 – 8 p.m.
The Gardens on Havana
10551 E. Garden Drive

Aurora Rhythms - Concerts on the Lawn presents:
Mr. Majestyk’s 8 Track Revival (a musical tribute to the ’70s)
6:30 – 8 p.m.
Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn

Opening Reception: “Micro Cosmos” and 25th Anniversary Celebration
4 – 7 p.m. DAVA

“Seussical Jr.,” the Musical
3 p.m. $
Vintage Theatre

Rock da Mic (Open Mic for Youth)
6 – 8 p.m.
Visions Performing Arts
The People’s Building

Arts on the Block (Arts Festival)
Noon – 8 p.m.
Fletcher Plaza

“Inside Us” works by DAVA youth and guest artists Eileen Richardson & Marie Conigliaro
DAVA
Through June 17

Exhibit: “Artworks by DAVA Youth”
Aurora History Museum
Through July 29

Art Exhibit by Carrie McKenna
Aurora Municipal Center 2nd floor Mezzanine
June 4 – 29

“Agnes of God”
Vintage Theatre
Through July 8 $

Art Exhibit by David Ocelotl Garcia
Aurora Municipal Center 2nd Floor Mezzanine
July 2 – 27

Art Exhibit by Betsy Keyes
Martin Luther King Jr. Library
June 1 – July 31

“Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland” $
Aurora Fox Arts Center
June 19 – July 7
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<td>“Agnes of God”</td>
<td>Vintage Theatre</td>
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<td>Art Exhibit by David Ocelotl Garcia</td>
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<td>2nd Floor Mezzanine</td>
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<td>“For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf”</td>
<td>7:30 p.m. Sat. and Sun. matinee at 2:30 p.m. 5280 Artist CoOp</td>
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<td>07</td>
<td>Closing Performance: “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”</td>
<td>10 a.m. Aurora Fox Arts Center</td>
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<td>Aurora Rhythms - Concerts on the Lawn presents: Cowboy Dave Band</td>
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<td>DeLaney Farm Historic District Open Days</td>
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<td>7/20 Memorial On-Tap Fundraiser</td>
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<td>Lecture: Downtown Aurora Visual Arts</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>House of Poetry</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Polynesian Arts and Culture Programs</td>
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<td>Dotsero in Concert</td>
<td>6 – 8 p.m. The Gardens on Havana</td>
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<td>Aurora Rhythms - Concerts on the Lawn presents: Warp Trio (Inter-disciplinary collaborations)</td>
<td>Aurora Municipal Center Reflection Garden</td>
<td>6:30 – 8 p.m.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Dedication Ceremony for 7/20 Memorial Artwork “Ascentiate”</td>
<td>Aurora Municipal Center Reflection Garden</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>DeLaney Farm Historic</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Open Day at Centennial House</td>
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“Call for Entries
Gateway to the Rockies Art Show
June 1 – Aug. 1
CallforEntry.org

June - July 2018 | 4
ALICE IN WONDERLAND
by the Little Foxes

The Aurora Fox Arts Center will turn over its main stage theatre to young actors this summer for the Little Foxes production of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland,” running June 19 through July 7.

This famous story, penned by Lewis Carroll, comes to the stage in an adaptation by Tim Kelly. This famous tale of Alice, who follows a rabbit down a rabbit hole and proceeds to encounter an array of strange creatures and challenges, has engaged audiences for years. Carroll’s goal in writing this story was to teach a lesson to children about growing up in an entertaining way. Each character teaches Alice something about life and growing up in a world that can be confusing and ever changing.

The story of Alice is one that kids of all ages can relate to and one that emphasizes the importance of our youth. Young people will always see the world through a unique perspective, and Little Foxes gives voice to their ideas and empowers them to take center stage.

“Little Foxes gives kids a creative outlet, a shared experience, an accomplishment to feel proud of and quality focused time with caring adults,” said Lisa Mumpton, director of “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.”

“With this play children learn empathy by portraying characters and personal responsibility,” Mumpton said. “They learn that their responsibility to the audience is to tell a story, and this, in turn, enhances their communication skills. And they learn about professional theatre, systems, protocols, vocabulary and discipline.”

She also believes that “Alice” is an important milestone in English and youth literature. “I find more and more that the general public is only familiar with the Disney animated version so they are not getting the full impact of the absurdity inherent in the book. It is a wildly imaginative and entertaining story with opportunities for actors to explore and portray unique characters.”

When asked about her favorite part of working with young artists, Mumpton was quick to say: “They absorb everything! They love to learn and play.”

Join Alice as she chases the White Rabbit and journeys into a topsy-turvy world that gets “curiouser and curiouser” as her fantastical adventures unfold. Meet the Mad Hatter, March Hare, Tweedledee and Tweedledum, the Cheshire Cat, the Queen of Hearts and more unforgettable characters, all set against a backdrop of awe-inspiring splendor.

For detailed information on performing times and tickets ($7 individual or $5 for groups of more than 10), visit AuroraFox.org.

7/20 MEMORIAL
Dedication

A transformation is taking place at the Reflection Garden, located in the Waterwise demonstration garden just off of the south side of the Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, in preparation for the installation of the sculpture “Asentiate.” Please join the 7/20 Memorial Foundation at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 27 for the dedication of the memorial. The memorial honors the 13 lives taken, 70 wounded and many lives that were changed on the night of July 20, 2012. Together with the surrounding garden, the artwork will create a beautiful reflective space that is open to all. The artist, Douwe Blumberg, will be among the speakers at this event which promises to be a moving tribute and represents the energy, support and financial assistance from so many.

For more public art-related events, visit AuroraGov.org/PublicArt.