

INSIDE

Car showmanship

W
weekender

JEANS THERAPY

Students learn how
to upcycle denim

MANY EVENTS THIS WEEK

SIoux CITY'S FREE READ | JANUARY 4-10, 2024 | VOL. 24 ISSUE 48 | AT WWW.SIOUXLAND.NET: EVENTS, MOVIE LISTINGS, BANDS & MORE

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What are you looking forward to in 2024?



Jared McNett
Online editor/Reporter
mcnett@siouxcityjournal.com
"Let's get some more historical epics in theaters in 2024. The people yearn for historical epics."



Earl Horlyk
Staff Writer
earl.horlyk@lee.net
"Now with both the writers strike and actors strike over, a return to a regular TV season would be nice. I don't think anybody will be disappointed if we saw game shows or supersized episodes of 'Survivor' – both emergency place-fillers – during prime time."



Mason Dockter
Staff Writer
mdockter@siouxcityjournal.com
"Well, I suppose there'll be about 156 Powerball drawings and 104 Mega Millions drawings in 2024. So that's something."

Have a question you'd like us to answer? Send it to events@siouxland.net and it may end up on this page.



X @SCWeekender

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The Weekender is published every Thursday by Sioux City Journal Communications, 2802 Castles Gate Drive, Sioux City, Iowa, 712-293-4313, email, events@siouxland.net. The Weekender welcomes unsolicited submissions, but is in no way responsible for their safety, return or publication. Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer(s) and may not reflect the opinion of the Weekender, its management and employees or its advertisers. Please recycle.

Your comments welcome

Have something to say? We'd like to hear it. Seriously. Call 712-293-4229 or email events@siouxland.net

Contributors

Tim Hynds and Jesse Brothers



ON THE COVER: Student Ayoola Ehikioya adds fabric to her outfit in Jill Risdal's Applied Sewing class at the Sioux City Career Academy. Photo by Jesse Brothers, The Weekender.

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CALENDAR

MUSIC

Bob Merchant & The Shadows
- Winter Dance Party, 8 p.m., Jan. 13; Vangarde Arts, 416 Pierce St. Information: <http://www.vangardearts.com/events>.

NMM Live - Rawlins Piano Trio, 2 p.m., Jan. 28; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

Casey Donahew, 8 p.m., Feb. 10; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

NMM Live - Andrea Ross & Robbie Erhard, 12 p.m., Feb.

16; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

Sioux City Symphony Orchestra Elgar: Symphony No. 1, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 17; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-277-2111.

Journey, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 28; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

NMM Live - Humbletown, 12 p.m., March 1; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information:

605-658-3450.

That Arena Rock Show, 8 p.m., March 1; Hard Rock Casino, 111 3rd St. Information: 712-226-7600.

Sam Hunt Outskirts Tour 2024, 7:30 p.m., March 14; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

NMM Live - Molly Haddad & Logan Wadley, 12 p.m., March 15; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 3

COMIC



Calendar

From 2

Sioux City Symphony Orchestra Windborne's Music Of Led Zeppelin, 7:30 p.m., March 16; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-277-2111.

NMM Live - Jason Laczkoski & Brett Cooper, 12 p.m., March 29; National Music Museum, 414 East Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

Mania - The ABBA Tribute, 7 p.m., March 30; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Sioux City Symphony Orchestra Sarah Change And Copland, 7:30 p.m., April 20; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-277-2111.

ART

Sioux City Art Center: Teo Nguyen: Viêt Nam Peace Project, Aug. 17 to Jan. 14; Judy Onofrio: Deep Dive, Sept. 21 to Feb. 11; Therman Statom: Novella, Feb. 1 to July 14; Youth Art Month Exhibition: Elementary School Students, Feb. 24 to April 21; ARTcetera 2024, March 22 to April 12; Grant Wood's Corn Room mural, ongoing; Earth-Water-Light, ongoing.

THEATER

Joe Gatto's Night of Comedy, 7 p.m., Jan. 12; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Baby Shark's Big Broadwave

Tour, 10 a.m., Feb. 3; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Jesus Christ Superstar, 7:30 p.m., Feb. 13; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Charlie Behrens: Good Old Fashioned Tour, 8 p.m., Feb. 23; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Blippi: The Wonderful World Tour, 6 p.m., April 5; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

Come From Away, 7:30 p.m., April 24; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

The Cher Show, 7 p.m., June 3; Orpheum Theater, 528 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-4850.

COMMUNITY

Hearts for TeamMates, 4 p.m., Feb. 2; Cottonwood Inn and Conference Center, 4420 Dakota Ave., South Sioux City. Information: 712-494-2440.

Ann Rehan Goebel Foundation Winter Gala, 6 p.m., Feb. 24; South Sioux City Marriott Riverfront, 385 East 4th St., South Sioux City. Information: 712-898-1043.

SPORTING

World Championship Motorcycle Ice Racing, 7 p.m., Jan. 13; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Sioux City Stampede Rodeo, 7 p.m., Feb. 9, 10; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive.

Information: 712-279-4850.

Harlem Globetrotters, 7 p.m., March 28; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

Hot Wheels Monster Trucks, 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., May 11; 2:30 p.m., May 12; Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive. Information: 712-279-4850.

HISTORICAL

NMM Special Exhibition "As Good As Gold: The First 50 Years", Jan. 20 to Dec. 30; National Music Museum, 414 E. Clark St., Vermillion, S.D. Information: 605-658-3450.

CONTINUING EVENTS

Breathe Yoga & Meditation Class, 5:30 p.m., Jan. 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30; 9 a.m., Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27; Breathe Yoga & Meditation Center, 1551 Indian Hills Dr. Building C. Information: 712-293-4900.

Siouxland Discovery Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m., Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29; St. Mark Lutheran Church, ELCA, 5200 Glenn Ave. Information: 712-212-3633.

Saturday Crafting in the Studio, 1 p.m., Jan. 27, Feb. 24, March 23; Gilchrist Learning Center, 220 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.

Imagination Station Open Studio, 10 a.m., Jan. 29, Feb. 26, March 25, April 29; Gilchrist Learning Center, 220 Pierce St. Information: 712-279-6580.



INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS PRESENTS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ICE RACING SERIES

REVENGE TOUR

ICE

TYSON EVENTS CENTER
Fleet Farm Arena

7:00PM SATURDAY
PRE-RACE PIT PARTY 5-6PM

JAN 13

SCAN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT TYSONCENTER.COM

Submit an event: Do you have an event you'd like to submit to our calendar? Call 712-293-4313, e-mail events@siouxland.net or enter online at www.sioxland.net. Include event date, time, event name, contact name and phone number.

Deadline: Noon the Friday prior to publication. (Early deadlines in effect the week before holidays).

SUX 6

THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN SIOUXLAND

Tube-tastic fun!

3 Yes, we know we're wimps. But we've never gone tubing at Cone Park, 3800 Line Drive. They're open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, so this may be our year. Or maybe not.



Making a move!

4 Author and illustrator Steve Jenkins will be the attraction during a 10 a.m. Tuesday Nature Tales program at the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road. Jenkins will discuss how animals move during the winter.



Go Muskies! A 'Capitol' idea!

Madison, Wisconsin, is best known for being the home of the University of Wisconsin and for being the Badger State's capital. But is it known for hockey? The Sioux City Musketeers will find out when they take on Madison for the two-game series at 7:05 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the Tyson Events Center, 401 Gordon Drive.

Calling all kid detectives!

2 Is your rugrat a Sherlock Holmes in the making? From 3 to 5 p.m. Monday, LaunchPAD Children's Museum, 625 Pearl St., will host a "Top Secret" afterschool event. Participants can make their own disguise and take home their very own spy kit. Is this how James Bond got his start?



Book 'em!

5 The Sioux City Public Library will host its first Open Book Club session of the year at the Morningside Branch Library from 10 to 11 a.m. and at the Aalfs Downtown Library on Monday. Librarian specialist Michael Maxwell will discuss Yasmine Ali's "Walk Through Fire: The Train Disaster that Changed America."



Mark your calendars!

6 Mark your calendar for Wednesday. That's Bittersweet Chocolate Day, Houseplant Appreciation Day as well as Peculiar People Day. Guess which day your friends at the Weekender identify with?

MOVIES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11



'SELF RELIANCE'

(Rated R for language throughout)
Given the opportunity to participate in a life or death reality game show, one man discovers there's a lot to live for.



'THE MARSH KING'S DAUGHTER'

(Rated R for violence throughout)
A woman seeks revenge against the man who kidnapped her mother.



'RACE FOR GLORY: AUDI VS. LANCIA'

(Rated R for some language)
Inspired by true events that occurred during the fierce rivalry between Germany (Audi) and Italy (Lancia) at the 1983 Rally World Championships.



'GOOD GRIEF'

(Rated R for strong language throughout)
When his husband unexpectedly dies, Marc's world shatters, sending him and his two best friends on a soul-searching trip to Paris that reveals some hard truths they each needed to face.



'FOE'

(Rated R for language, some sexual content and nudity)
Hen and Junior farm a secluded piece of land that has been in Junior's family for generations, but their quiet life is thrown into turmoil when an uninvited stranger shows up at their door with a startling proposal.

NEW DVD RELEASES FOR THE WEEK

'The Holdovers'
'Condition of Return'
'Spector'

'The Agnostic'
'The Wedding Cottage'

SHOWTIMES

LOCAL THEATERS

Promenade 14

924 Fourth St., 712-277-8300

Wonka 1:00 1:20 1:40 3:40 4:10 4:20 6:40 7:20 7:40
Maestro 1:15 4:10 7:05
Godzilla Minus One 1:00 4:00 7:00
Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes 12:50 4:10 7:50
The Boy and the Heron 1:10 4:15 7:15
Napoleon 12:50 6:40
Wish 1:50 4:15 6:50 9:20
Thanksgiving 4:10
Trolls Band Together 1:30 4:15 6:45

AMC Southern Hills 12

4400 Sergeant Road, 712-276-3062

Wonka 1:00 4:00 7:00
Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom 12:10 2:05 3:05
5:00 6:00 8:00 8:50
Migration 12:00 12:30 2:30 3:00
Anyone But You 2:30 5:00 7:30
Godzilla Minus One 3:15 6:10
The Iron Claw 1:00

www.amctheatres.com

Royal 3 Cinema

33 Central Ave SW., Le Mars, IA, 712-564-1778

Wonka 7:00
Trolls Band Together 7:10
Napoleon 6:50

www.royal3cinema.com

Pioneer 3 Theater

110 S. 11th St., Nebraska City, NE 402-873-6487

Wonka 7:05 9:45
Migration 7:00 9:35
Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom 6:30 9:30

www.acxcinemas.com

Main Street 7

866 E. 23rd St., Fremont, NE 402-727-8986

www.acxcinemas.com
See website for showtimes

Majestic Theatre

310 Main St., Wayne, NE 402-833-1833

www.majesticonmain.org
See website for showtimes

Coyote Twin

10 E Main St., Vermillion, SD 605-624-3331
vermilliontheaters.com See website for showtimes

Holland Plaza Theater

717 Eighth St. SE Orange City, IA
712-737-8866

The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes 7:00
Wonka 7:20
Wish 7:30

krullcinemas.com

Main St. 3

401 Ninth St., Sheldon, IA

Trolls Band Together 6:30 9:00
Wonka 6:20 9:10
Wish 6:40 9:00

krullcinemas.com

JEAN SP LICING

Career Academy students help the environment
by ‘upcycling’ during fashion pathway class

BY EARL HORLYK

Once known for being the fabric of choice for both hippies and cowboys, denim has been making a comeback on fashion runways as of late.

However, even the trendiest blue jeans may have a detrimental impact on the environment.

Don’t believe us? Here are some sustainability stats: 17 million tons of clothing is discarded each year and around 4.5 billion jeans are sold worldwide on an annual basis.

The denim industry is known for its high water usage, energy consumption and chemical pollution. Indeed, it represents one of the most environmentally damaging sectors in the fashion industry, according to a report commissioned by Makefashionbetter.com

So that means that cool denim jacket in your closet or those skinny jeans your got for Christmas both carry a heavy carbon footprint.

Career Academy instructor Jill Risdal knew this. That’s why she had her Applied Sewing high school students “upcycle” an old piece of denim while creating a unique, personalized garment of their own making.

“I wanted my fashion design pathway kids to transform worn-out jeans and jackets while turning them into something new and creative,” she explained.

Junior Rylee Winquist is already a big fan of “upcycling.”

“It is important because it helps the environment and it saves natural resources,” she said. “Even better, you can use old denim and turn it into something new and cool.”

In fact, Winquist’s self-made denim halter top and blue jean miniskirt wouldn’t look out of place at any boutique at the mall.

Senior Fernanda Torres went even further.

She took denim shorts, combined it with lace as well as a colorful assortment of men’s neckties for a fashion-forward midi-skirt.

“Long skirts are ‘in’ nowadays,” Torres said.

Apparently, so are rips, tears and frays.

Austin Guerra, a junior, was using a seam ripper to fray the bottom of an old pair of blue



JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER
Student Ayoola Ehikioya adds fabric to her outfit in Jill Risdal’s Applied Sewing class at the Sioux City Career Academy.

jean shorts.

“People pay extra to make their blue jeans look a bit raggedy,” he said. “People also pay extra for certain labels.”

This is why Guerra sewed a multitude of trendy Hollister labels on these decidedly upscale “jorts.”

Risdal said her students had spent the last few weeks of class researching, brainstorming and constructing items they’d actually want to wear.

That included senior Eric Munoz who was creating a double-denim hood that he’ll attach to a winter jacket.

“Originally, I wasn’t going to have the inside of the hood be a different type of denim than the outside,” he admitted. “It was actually a mistake but it does look cooler like that.”

Munoz drew his inspiration from the



JESSE BROTHERS PHOTOS, THE WEEKENDER
Nick Duong works on sewing lace in Jill Risdal’s Applied Sewing class at the Sioux City Career Academy. Inspired by 1970s-era bell-bottoms, Duong wanted the laces to create an extra-large flair to these blast-from-the-past pants.

internet. Junior Nick Duong more than likely drew inspiration from “That ’70s Show” reruns.

“Bell-bottoms were popular in the 1970s and I want to exaggerate the wideness by sewing extra lace to the leg of these pants,” Duong explained.

Those particular bell-bottoms are what was called elephant pants and were immortalized by Cher on “The Sonny & Cher Comedy Hour,” circa 1974.

We wouldn’t be surprised if somebody like Olivia Rodrigo decided to wear something similar on some swanky red carpet.

That wouldn’t faze junior Ariel Flynn one bit.

Showing off her self-made denim corset top and mini-skirt ensemble, she wants to pursue a career as a designer.

“I love making clothes and wearing clothes,”

Flynn said. “By upcycling old material, I can be creative while saving a whole lot of money.”

Which is exactly what Risdal wanted her students to take away from her class.

“Fashion allows us to express our individuality,” she said. “You can tell my students don’t have a problem thinking outside of the box.”

Plus if they’re lucky, they can pick up some extra pocket money.

That was what Winquist, a relative newcomer to the fashion world, is discovering.

“I literally didn’t know how to darn a sock before I took this class,” she said. “Now, my friends and family are coming to me every time they want something hemmed up or let out.”

“Guess I don’t if I want to be a designer or a seamstress in the future,” Winquist said with a smile. “Now, I know how to do both.”



Career Academy student Elyana Grimaldo uses a seam ripper in Jill Risdal’s Applied Sewing class. For their final project of the semester, students were asked to give new life to old denim.



Students design and sew their own clothes with upcycled denim fabric in Jill Risdal’s Applied Sewing class at the Sioux City Career Academy in Sioux City. According to Risdal, upcycling – or reusing – old blue jean material will help the environment.



Inspired by a idea he discovered on the Internet, Applied Sewing student Eric Munoz attaches a neck lining to a hood at a Career Academy class.



Austin Guerra uses a seam ripper to fray the bottoms of an old pair of denim shorts in Jill Risdal’s Applied Sewing class at the Sioux City Career Academy.

Shake, rattle & vroom!

Fasten your seatbelts for the first 'Winter Shake-Up' car show

BY EARL HORLYK

For the past decade, Rodney Reisdorph has been the mastermind – as well as one of the shadetree mechanics – behind the Scene of the Crash that has been bringing souped-up jalopies to the Dakota/Thurston County Fairgrounds every summer.

Now, he's heading inside for the first "Winter Shake-Up," a car and motorcycle show taking place from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday at the Sioux City Convention Center, 801 Fourth St.

But don't expect to see Reisdorph's rusty 1953 Chevy among the showcased sedans.

"Nope, the old Chevy is staying home this time around," he said.

In its place will be more than 50 cars and 21 motorcycles from across the Midwest.

"We have guys driving their Ferraris and Dodge Chargers from such places as Kansas and Minneapolis," Reisdorph said.

Well, that's pretty ballsy given the uncertainties of wintertime weather.

This is basically the reason why Reisdorph is hosting a car show in January.

"People want something to do in January," he reasoned. "Why not come to an indoor car show?"

Indeed, Reisdorph remembered when such car-related activities were an annual tradition.

"I recall seeing the 'World of Wheels' car show at the old auditorium years ago," he said. "However, it's been a long time since anyone has tried something like this."

Given Reisdorph's experience

in corralling vintage hot rods on a steamy weekend in July, he might be the perfect person for a cold weather car-and-bike show.

"People think managing a big event like 'Scene of the Crash' or, now, the 'Winter Shake-Up' is simply securing a site and calling a bunch of your friends," he said, shaking his head. "Instead, it is a lot of hard work."

But in the long run, bringing people in to see some outstanding motor vehicle is all worthwhile.

"I like cars all year round," Reisdorph said. "I'm sure other people feel the same way I do."

DETAILS

WHAT: "Winter Shake-Up" Car and Motorcycle Show
WHEN: 6 to 9 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday
WHERE: Sioux City Convention Center, 801 Fourth St.



Rodney Reisdorph's 1953 Chevrolet 210 sedan won't be in the winter show. It was part of the summer Scene of the Crash show.

JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER



Rodney Reisdorph sits in his restored 1962 Buick Skylark at the Sioux City Journal parking lot. Yes, Reisdorph's car does have a furry dashboard and no, it won't be at Friday or Saturday's "Winter Shake-Up," his new event taking place at the Sioux City Convention Center.

JESSE BROTHERS, THE WEEKENDER

ADVICE

ANSWERS FOR ALL YOUR WOES



DEAR ANNIE
ANNIE LANE

Husband's slights are taking a toll

Dear Annie: My husband — who is loving, hardworking and helpful around the house — slights me from time to time. I believe he loves me, but these slights really hurt and began to become a pattern about 12 years ago.

It happened for the first time in our marriage when his ex-girlfriend from 35 years ago showed up in our social circle. He would sit right next to her at events “because I was talking to others” or “already sitting.” When I told him I had saved him a seat and it would have been nice if we would have sat together and that I felt slighted and discounted, he said, “Well, I haven’t seen her in years, and I wanted to catch up.” Then, at several following events, it was the same way.

I trust my husband, so I didn’t say much until the ex-girlfriend would come to talk to him, not even acknowledging me. It was then that I finally spoke up and said, “I’m not understanding why she’s so important to you, and I feel disrespected.”

Then, during the pandemic, he was consistently over at his mother’s doing projects and having meals whenever he wasn’t at work. I even voiced that I was feeling isolated working from home so it would be nice if he could spend at least one day of the weekend with me and have an occasional meal together. We planned to have dinner together, and just before our scheduled dinner, he said he was going to his mother’s for pizza.

Now one of my childhood friends has moved back to our state, and as we reconnected, my husband and her would get into discussions about outdoor activities. Next thing I know he is inviting her hunting (I don’t hunt). The first time they went it was with another buddy. I learned about it after the invite, the day before they were going, so there was no discussion. The next week it was just the two

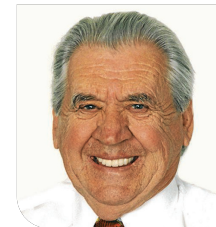
of them. I asked that he not spend time with her alone, stating that, after all, I don’t hang with other men alone. He did respect that request.

The most recent slight happened when we were going out on a double date with another couple. They came to pick us up, and when the woman got out of the car (to allow my husband to sit up front), my husband said, “Wow, you really look nice” and then opened the back door for her to get in. My husband used to open doors for me. But he made no mention of my appearance or outfit. When we were leaving dinner walking to the car, he didn’t open the door for me; he proceeded to the other side of the car and opened her door instead. I just don’t understand. Any advice/insight would be appreciated. — **Feeling Slighted**

Dear Feeling Slighted: It sounds like you have been an open, direct communicator throughout your marriage, which is always the first step. Voicing these types of feelings can feel scary or intimidating, so I commend you for speaking up.

Your husband may be the loving, trustworthy man that you feel he is — but if he’s not acting in a way that makes you feel loved and trusting, then you have an issue. You’ve already done the hardest part: communicating your feelings in an honest and constructive way. And it sounds like your upfront communication has led to some improvements.

It’s very easy to become so comfortable in a relationship that you wind up taking each other for granted, which might explain why he holds the door open for another woman but not for you. On the other hand, there might be more going on that should be explored. I recommend finding a couples therapist to help guide you both to rekindling your love for each other.



**TWEEN 12
AND 20**
**DR. ROBERT
WALLACE**

Would it make sense to apply for a job where I like to shop?

DR. WALLACE: I love T.J. Maxx and Ross stores! It’s a great shopping experience and I always visit these stores whenever I have free time, even though I only buy something occasionally.

I’m a senior in high school and my dad is going to allow me to get a part time job after the New Year’s holiday.

Since I know and love these stores so well, does that mean I should seek employment at one of them? — **I Love to Browse the Stores, via email**

I LOVE TO BROWSE THE STORES:

Absolutely! You’ll likely interview quite well given your knowledge of those particular stores. And if you are able to become employed at one of these companies, your work time will be enjoyable in terms of the workplace environment.

Just be sure to follow all rules, communicate with your managers and coworkers, and even feel free to make a suggestion or two if you notice something that you feel can help the company and simultaneously make the shopping experience even better for the store’s customers.

I can take care of myself

DR. WALLACE: I’m 15 and my parents won’t let me stay home alone while they go on vacation over the New Year’s holiday for that entire weekend.

I think this is absurd since I’m an excellent student and I never get in trouble. I can definitely take care of myself. How can I get them to change their mind? — **A Very Mature Girl of 15, via email**

A VERY MATURE GIRL OF 15: This is your parents’ call, and you’ll need to respect their wishes. They must have a plan that involves a relative like an aunt or a grandparent who they plan to have stay with you.

I don’t think I have any magic advice that will change their minds, but one thing you could consider is to see if you can stay at the home of one of your best friends with their family during this time.

Of course, the family would need to be willing to help you out, and if you can find one quickly, you might have a chance at this option. If you do have a possible scenario, have your parents visit that home right away to see the location for themselves and to meet these parents. On short notice in your case here, this is the best suggestion I can offer you.

MUSIC

TOP TRACKS

The 10 best albums of 2023

MARIA SHERMAN | Associated Press

It was a blockbuster year across genres, but only a few could make AP's list. Instead of embracing the antiquated practice of ranking very different albums against one another, we're celebrating the best next to the best with our top

2023
YEAR IN REVIEW



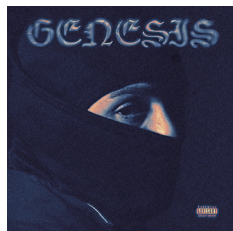
"HACKNEY DIAMONDS," THE ROLLING STONES

Prior to "Hackney Diamonds," the Rolling Stones hadn't released an album of original material in 18 years. No one saw this album coming, as raw and rocking as ever: a collection of 12 crackling songs, their first since the 2021 death of drummer Charlie Watts, produced by Andrew Watt (known for his work with Post Malone and Justin Bieber), featuring Lady Gaga, and a rapturous addition to their already legendary discography. But that's the Stones for you — it's as if they invented new ways to approach longevity.



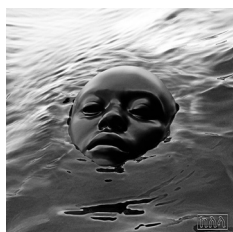
"GUTS," OLIVIA RODRIGO

In the two years since her tear-jerking ballad "drivers license" came in like a wrecking ball, Olivia Rodrigo experienced a lot of life in a short period of time, resulting in "GUTS," her sophomore album. Across 12 tracks of big feelings balladry and riot grrrl-informed power pop-punk, Rodrigo expertly soundtracks the throes of fame — and the experience of entering your 20s. Rodrigo makes hard lemonade out of life's lemons — a sonic treatise on a young woman's dissatisfaction.



"GÉNESIS," PESO PLUMA

The year belongs to regional Mexican artists, who brought their banda, norteno, mariachi, sierrreno and more to geographies well beyond Mexico and the southwest United States. Leading the charge is Peso Pluma, whose third studio album, "Génesis," became the highest-charting regional Mexican album of all time. Across 14 tracks, Pluma marries contemporary swagger with traditional corridos tumbados, bringing the colorful and once-maligned music to the masses — and making it all his own



"RAVEN," KELELA

On her sophomore album, "Raven," the fluid R&B singer Kelela offers a masterclass in sensual breakbeats and experiences in queer Black motherhood. If pulling from U.K. garage, '90s house and electronica has become a trend in 2023, Kelela does it with a restrained intensity — soulful vocals atop dance rhythms, hazy sunset music set in a vintage club, like on the single "Contact." "Loneliness, I see in your eyes/It might just render you blind," she sings. "Baby, let's dance it away."



"RAT SAW GOD," WEDNESDAY

The most exciting band in contemporary indie rock delivers an alt-country rock sensibility where narrative storytelling is as much a part of the sonic fabric as lap steel or guitar fuzz or a poetic line sung out of key. At the heart of "Rat Saw God," Wednesday's fifth album, is a tension that plays out like a sonic embrace. It is an album about the complications of Southern identity, the particularities of American geography that come out in songs about machine guns, race car drivers, crickets, trucks, Dollywood, sedans and Narcan. Evocative, to say the least.



"SUNDIAL," NONAME

In a little over half-an-hour, Noname's "Sundial" jolts the Chicago rapper-poet's audience. The album is a contentious and confrontational continuation of the spirit felt on 2018's "Room 25," centering Black art and simultaneously unraveling the ways in which it is exploited. The highlight, if just one, is "Namesake," a track where Noname targets Rihanna, Beyoncé and Kendrick Lamar's ties to the NFL. "War machine gets glamorized/We play the game to pass the time," she raps, before flipping the lens on herself and her own shakable politics.



"LUCKY," MEGAN MORONEY

Country music dominated this year. Morgan Wallen's "Last Night" and Luke Combs' cover of Tracy Chapman's "Fast Car" held onto the top of the Billboard charts for the majority of 2023. But beyond those impressive metrics should be recognition of Megan Moroney, whose stellar debut album "Lucky" emerged fully formed and fully without the male bravado that punctuates much of mainstream country. Her swooning single "Tennessee Orange" was ubiquitous on country radio this year, but it's the whole of "Lucky" that makes her one to watch.



"NEW BLUE SUN," ANDRÉ 3000

For the first time in 17 years, André 3000 — half of the best-selling hip-hop duo of all time, Outkast — has released a daring new album of original material. Across 87 minutes, the musical innovator plays upward of 40 types of flutes from around the world on this ambient jazz LP. It is a minimal, meditative listening experience — in some ways, ancient and, in others, an extension of the Afrofuturism that André 3000 has always worked to bring to the forefront.



"MY SOFT MACHINE," ARLO PARKS

It hasn't been too long since Arlo Parks truly made a name for herself in 2021, when her unique brand of introspective R&B earned her a Mercury Award and two Grammy nominations for her debut album "Collapsed in Sunbeams." Parks' acute understanding of writing early-20s ennui has only sharpened. On "My Soft Machine," she manages to weave sounds together that shouldn't quite fit together, finding congruency in her downy melodies and romantic lyricism.



"MAÑANA SERÁ BONITO," KAROL G

It took decades for reggaetón to be recognized in the mainstream arena and outside of the diverse Latin communities that created it. But even now, when it enjoys worldwide success, men dominate the conversation: Bad Bunny, Daddy Yankee, J Balvin, and Rauw Alejandro, to name a few. On "Mañana Será Bonito," the greatest album in Karol G's discography, the Colombian superstar proves there's been some serious gender oversight. This album should be considered part of a modern canon.

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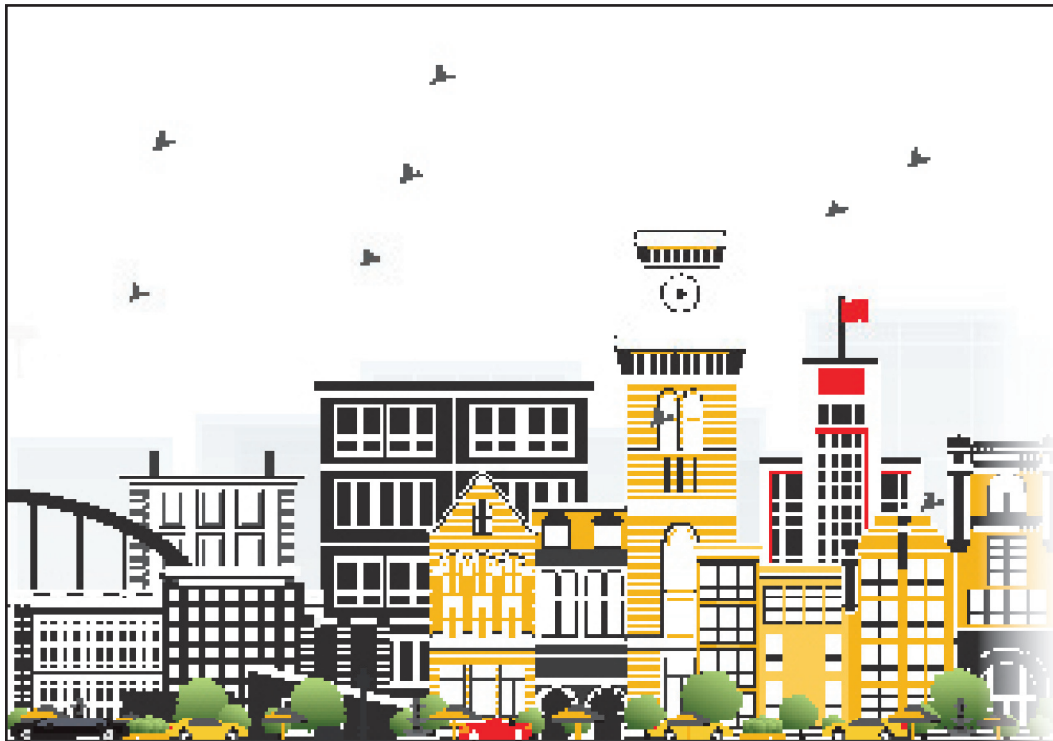
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