

Explore the History of Jazz and Celebrate the Lunar New Year

This week, learn about the African-American chefs who supported the White House kitchen, listen to a family-friendly concert or attend a poetry reading.

By Emma Grillo and Danya Issawi

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Here is a sampling of the week's events and how to tune in (all times are Eastern). Note that events are subject to change after publication.

Monday

Explore the history of jazz in Washington with the musician, broadcaster and historian Ken Avis, as he discusses what made the city a capital for the genre and how the music has changed through the years. This event, presented by the Smithsonian Associates, costs \$25 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Registration closes two hours before the event.

When 6:45 p.m.

Where smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing/tickets/music-city-dc

Listen to a **conversation between Priyanka Chopra Jonas and the author Glennon Doyle**, presented by Live Talks Los Angeles. The two will discuss Ms. Chopra Jonas's new memoir, "Unfinished," which recounts the actress and producer's 20-year, dual-continent career. Tickets cost \$38, and include a signed copy of "Unfinished," which is available to ship only within the United States.

When 9 p.m.

Tuesday

Watch the Pulitzer Prize finalist Dael Orlandersmith perform a monologue, originally commissioned by the Repertory Theater of St. Louis, exploring the unrest in Ferguson, Mo., after a white police officer shot and killed Michael Brown, a Black teenager, in 2014. Presented by the Center Theater Group, All Arts and eight regional theaters, the production pulls from Ms. Orlandersmith's own interviews with residents in the Ferguson area, and uses footage from her performance at the Rattlestick Playwrights Theater in New York. This event is free to watch at any time, although donations are accepted.

When Anytime

Where centertheatregroup.org/digitalstage/digital-stage/until-the-flood-streaming-on-all-arts

Wednesday

Celebrate the Lunar New Year's unique food traditions in a talk from the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, which make up the Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art. Jan Stuart, the Melvin R. Seiden curator of Chinese art, will present works from the museum's collection that relate to the holiday's culinary traditions, and Lydia Chang, of the Peter Chang restaurant empire, will share stories about her family's celebratory dishes. This event is free, and attendance is capped at 500.

When 6 p.m.

Where asia.si.edu/lunar-new-year-celebration

Thursday

Dive deep into the science of attraction and aphrodisiacs with the drag queen Coleslaw, presented by the Museum of Science in Boston. The event, which is prerecorded, features a conversation, Q. and A. and some games. Coleslaw will be joined by Martha Hopkins, author of

“The New InterCourses: An Aphrodisiac Cookbook” to learn, ask and play in the name of science. This event is free (although donations are accepted).

When 7:30 p.m.

Where mos.org/explore/subspace/coleslaws-corner

Pablo Amargo

Friday

Sit down for a discussion with Adrian Miller, the James Beard Award-winning author of “The President’s Kitchen Cabinet,” as he **explores the history of African-American chefs who cooked in and supported the White House kitchen** during the presidencies of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Barack Obama, among others. Mr. Miller will examine how these chefs, cooks and staff members contributed to American trends and culture through their

cuisine, and will delve into the stories of those who worked in the White House and the presidents whom they served. Tickets to this event, which is presented by 92Y, are \$20. The session will be recorded and viewable later for those who register.

When 5 p.m.

Where 92y.org/event/the-president-s-kitchen-cabinet

Spend the evening listening to poetry from COUPLET, a quarterly reading series produced, curated and hosted by the poet Leah Umansky. The winter edition, presented alongside The Red Room at KGB Bar and sponsored by Poets & Writers, features work from both established and emerging poets, including Patricia Smith, Shane McCrae and Benjamin Garcia. This event is free.

When 7 p.m.

Where poets.org/event/winter-edition-couplet-reading-series

Saturday

Join Ensemble NYC for an evening of operatic love songs. Featuring well-known artists, such as Maggie Woolums, the event will include pieces like Gioachino Rossini's "Una voce poco fa" and Mozart's "La ci darem la mano." A portion of the proceeds will be donated to West Side Campaign Against Hunger. Tickets are need-based and can be purchased for as little as \$10.

When 7:30 p.m.

Where musae.me/ensemblenyc/experiences/889/canzone-damore

Sunday

Dance with your little ones while listening to a **special Valentine's Day concert from the Laurie Berkner Band.** In a live performance, Ms. Berkner, a children's recording artist, will play family-friendly songs, dance with animations and even introduce special guests. Tickets are \$20, and give viewers access to both the 12 p.m. and 5 p.m. shows.

When 12 p.m. or 5 p.m.

Where live.laurieberkner.com

Plan the perfect Valentine's Day date night at home with a **performance of "Romeo and Juliet,"** from Shakespeare's Globe in London, starring Nathan Welsh as Romeo and Charlotte Beaumont as Juliet. Recorded in 2019, the tragic romance comes to life in a replica of the original open-air theater, which opened in 1599, where the play would have been staged in Shakespeare's time. The show is free to watch online until the end of March.

When Anytime

Where 2019.playingshakespeare.org