



SPARK

spark plug newsletter

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Secrets: Cool Deals



Cool Deals Highlight

Need to feed your monthly art addiction with something more than just the upscale First Thursday galleries? Check out emerging local artists and affordable art every second Saturdays at the Art

Explosion galleries at both of its locations 744 Alabama and 2425 17th Street in San Francisco. Admission is free. More details at theartexplosion.com.

Search Spark

Spark tips

- * A good place to start is sfarts.org, which has a searchable database of current events with a "Show All Free Events" search option.
- * If time is no object but money is and there is a particular dance or theater performance you want to see, volunteer as an usher. And if there is a museum you want to visit, volunteer as a docent. Contact the arts organization directly for more information.
- * Many art galleries are open to the public without admission fees and they are among the best places for viewing the latest in visual art. Check out artweek.com for exhibition listings on the West Coast.

Other Cool Deals

Community Music Center

sfmusic.org

With its weekly free or low-cost concerts and its modest tuition rates, sliding scale fees, tuition-free ensembles, and financial aid programs, the Community Music Center serves a large and diverse population.

Where: 544 Capp St. & 741 30th Ave., San Francisco

Phone: (415) 647-6015 (Capp St.) & (415) 221-4515 (30th Ave.)

San Francisco Opera

sfopera.com

Incorporating a symphony of car horns and sounds of nuclear explosion in some of its modern operas, San Francisco Opera is updating its image and inviting younger patrons by encouraging informal dress and by offering \$10 Standing Room tickets for performances at the War Memorial Opera House. Student rush tickets are \$15 and senior rush tickets are \$30.

Where: 301 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco

Phone: (415) 861-4008

The Poetry Center at San Francisco State

sfsu.edu/~poetry

Poetry readings are free of charge at the Poetry Center. For off-campus readings, a \$7 donation is requested.

Where: San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Ave., San Francisco

Phone: (415) 338-2227

TIX Bay Area

theatrebayarea.org

This is the place to get half-price tickets on the day of a performance to selected events. TIX Bay Area is a program of Theatre Bay Area, a nonprofit organization serving over 300 theatre and dance companies in the 11-county Bay Area.

Where: There are two TIX Pavilion locations in San Francisco: Powell St., between Geary and Post; and the lower level of Moscone Center South, 747 Howard St.

When: Tuesday - Thursday 11am-6pm; Friday 11am-7pm; Saturday

If there is a **Cool Deal** you would like to submit to **Spark**, email us at spark@kqed.org.

10am-7pm; Sunday 10am-3pm; closed on Mondays; Half-price tickets for Sunday will be sold on Saturday and Sunday

Phone: (415) 433-7827

Z Space

zspace.org

Many theater companies offer a "Pay What You Can Night." For Z Space, it's every Wednesday that they have a performance. This is first come/first served.

Where: Various venues

Phone: (415) 437-6775

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Free Museum Days

Every Tuesday

- **Legion of Honor**
thinker.org
Where: 100 34th Ave., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 863-3330

First Tuesday of the month

- **Asian Art Museum**
asianart.org
Where: 200 Larkin St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 581-3500
- **California Historical Society**
californiahistoricalsociety.org
Where: 678 Mission St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 357-1848
- **Cartoon Art Museum**
cartoonart.org
Where: 655 Mission St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) CARTOON (227-8666)
- **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**
sfmoma.org
Where: 151 Third St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 357-4000
- **Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Gallery**
yerbabuenaarts.org
Where: 701 Mission St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 978-ARTS (2787)

First Wednesday of the month

- **California Academy of Sciences**
calacademy.org
Where: 875 Howard St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 321-8000
- **Museum of Craft & Folk Art**
mocfa.org
Where: Fort Mason Center, Landmark Bldg. A, San Francisco
Phone: (415) 775-0991
- **Exploratorium**
exploratorium.edu
Where: Palace of Fine Arts, 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) EXPLORE

- **Museo ItaloAmericano**
museoitaloamericano.org
Where: Fort Mason Center, Bldg. C, San Francisco
Phone: (415) 673-2200

First and third Wednesday of the month

- **di Rosa Preserve - Art & Nature**
dirosapreserve.org
Where: 5200 Carneros Hwy 121, Napa
Phone: (707) 226-5991

First Thursday of the month

- **Berkeley Art Museum**
bampfa.berkeley.edu
Where: Entrances on 2626 Bancroft Way and 2621 Durant Ave., Berkeley
Phone: (510) 642-0808

Second Saturday of the month

- **Bay Area Discovery Museum** (after 1pm)
baykidsmuseum.org
Where: Fort Baker, 557 McReynolds Rd., Sausalito
Phone: (415) 339-3900

Second Sunday of the month

- **Oakland Museum of California**
museumca.org
Where: 1000 Oak St., Oakland
Phone: (510) 238-2200

Always free

- **Pacific Heritage Museum**
bankunited.com/phm/
608 Commercial St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 399-1124
- **San Francisco Museum of Craft+Design**
sfmcd.org
Free admission offered through June 2005
Where: 550 Sutter St., San Francisco
Phone: (415) 773-0303
- **San Jose Museum of Art**
sjmusart.org
Where: 110 S. Market St., San Jose
Phone: (408) 271-6840
- **Triton Museum**
tritonmuseum.org
Where: 1505 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara
Phone: (408) 247-3754

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