

The Flatirons from Chautauqua Meadow ©Thomas Mangan Photography

BOULDER
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BOULDER CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

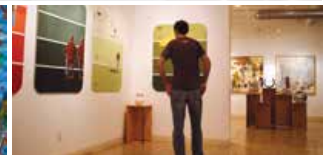
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BOULDER ARTS & CULTURE Guide

A Guide to Exploring Boulder's Creative Side



INSPIRATION IS IN OUR NATURE

Red rocks and blue skies, cool sunshine and long shadows, gripping mountain vistas and head-clearing **open spaces** — Boulder's natural setting is its muse, drawing artists from all over the world to live and create here in one of the most inspiring towns in the West.

But it's more than just outdoor beauty that makes Boulder an arts destination. A forward-thinking, risk-taking culture stretches back to 1877, when the **University of Colorado** made Boulder its home. Along with it came the free-thinking ways of a college town that was once called the "Athens of the West." **Naropa University**, founded by Tibetan Buddhist Chogyam Trungpa Rinpoche, added an even more progressive element to the educational makeup of Boulder when it opened its doors in 1974. Today, Boulder is recognized as a hotbed for successful **Internet start-up businesses**, with innovative programs such as Techstars creating a vibe of collaboration and big ideas.

The spirit of **innovation** crosses over into the arts, as well. With an impressive roster of cultural institutions and outpourings of **creativity** wherever you look, you'll find the atmosphere — and yes, the **gorgeous setting** — positively energizing.

“ Boulder's natural setting is its muse. ”



Photos this page:
©Denise Chambers

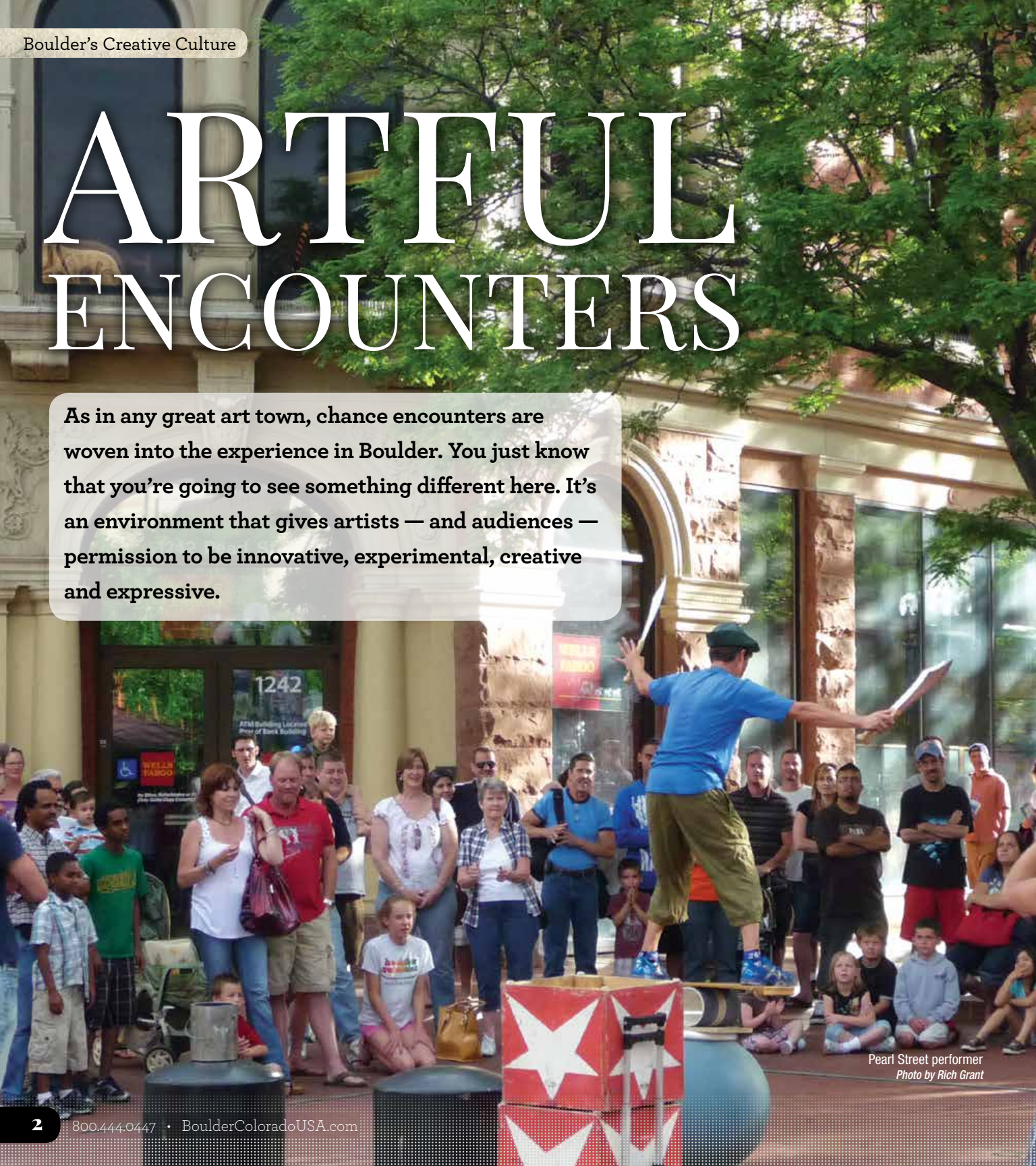
Art in the Outdoors

Local photographers, painters and writers lead field workshops (mainly in the summer) that include free art hikes, photographers' presentations, nature journaling workshops and walks to explore the artistic relationship with the natural world. It's all through the City of Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) and the Arts Program. OSMPandthearts.org

ON THE COVER (clockwise from top): Musicians performing on Pearl Street ©Kim Farin; Art & Soul gallery ©Denise Chambers; Boulder Theater ©Boulder Theater; "Hearts on a Swing" sculpture ©Wally Gobetz; concert at Macky Auditorium ©University of Colorado/Glenn J. Asakawa; Frequent Flyers® Aerial Dance ©David Andrews; Gogol Bordello concert at Fox Theatre ©Greg Younger; Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse ©Wally Gobetz

ARTFUL ENCOUNTERS

As in any great art town, chance encounters are woven into the experience in Boulder. You just know that you're going to see something different here. It's an environment that gives artists — and audiences — permission to be innovative, experimental, creative and expressive.



Pearl Street performer
Photo by Rich Grant

1 Boulder's pedestrian Pearl Street Mall has been called a "living stage." We'd have to agree. Catch live **street performances** by bluegrass bands, piano players, jugglers, contortionists and the famous Zip Code Man. And just outside the **Boulder Arts & Crafts Gallery's** door, you might catch an artist working on a project right in front of you.

2 Stop in the Chautauqua Auditorium to watch **free, open rehearsals with the Colorado Music Festival** June-Aug. Or for something totally different, attend a performance of the **Boulder Laptop Orchestra (BLORk)** at the ATLAS Center for Media, Arts and Performance on the CU campus.

3 Be on the lookout for painters or painting classes sitting with easels, **painting plein air** next to Boulder Creek, in the Chautauqua Meadow or downtown.

4 Look for curated collections in unexpected spots such as **bagel shops** (Moe's Bagels), **coffee shops** (Laughing Goat, Espressoria, The Cup) and **restaurants**. **The Sink** is a landmark restaurant whose interior is covered in graffiti, from ceiling to floor. Spot President Obama and Robert Redford's signatures — and lots of caricatures.

5 Artistry, innovation and experimentation are prized in the **kitchens of Boulder's restaurants**. You'll find the same kind of spirit in our **breweries, distilleries and wineries**, too. (Out of Bounds Stout or Falconer's Flight IPA, anyone?)

6 The **National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)** buildings were designed by architect I.M. Pei, who also designed the **pyramids at the Louvre**. NCAR welcomes visitors and is also the location of several trailheads into the foothills.



National Center for Atmospheric Research ©Wally Gobetz



Thursday Night Bicycle Cruiser Ride
© Jackson Carson/JxnPx.com

7 There's a costume party every Thursday night during the **Thursday Night Bicycle Cruiser Ride**. Join in the fun or just admire the costumes, decked-out bicycles and general revelry. You might also notice all of the creatively made **bike racks** around town.

8 Poets Allen Ginsberg and Anne Waldman founded the **Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Boulder's Naropa University**. See page 5 for info on the university's summer writing program.

9 Catch a live performance at one of the dozens of coffee shops in Boulder. Or join in the hula-hooping fun during the once-a-month **"Hoopy Hour" at Shine Restaurant**.

10 Don't miss the intriguing **murals at Pearl and 21st Streets** — and right down 21st St. is the ultra-creative **madelife** shop and **Kakes Studios**, with tons of drop-in movement classes from yoga to African dance.

10 More Surprises

▶ The Boulder Tattoo Project is working with 200 Boulderites who will tattoo themselves with parts of a single poem about the city, written by poet Anne Waldman.

▶ The animated sitcom "South Park" was created by Trey Parker and Matt Stone while they were film students at University of Colorado, Boulder.



▶ Dozens of digital designers call Boulder home. The popular apps Paper Toss and DragonVale were created right here in Boulder and have been downloaded millions of times.

▶ Boulder has a notably high number of reality-show stars, from Monika Leigh of "The Voice" to "Top Chef" winner Hosea Rosenberg.

▶ Boulder's Second Story Garage brings in musical acts from Colorado — or those just passing through — and films them in a small recording studio in the newsroom of the *Daily Camera*, a Boulder newspaper.

▶ One of the most creative shoe lines around, Crocs was developed by three men from Boulder. The shoe's flagship store is on Pearl Street.



▶ Boulder has a "phantom sculptor" who has mysteriously left unclaimed large-scale works of art on residents' lawns and in front of the Boulder History Museum.

▶ Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., a noted landscape architect and son of the designer of New York City's Central Park, helped plan the city of Boulder.

▶ During Boulder's Truth Be Told, a bimonthly story slam, seven people tell five-minute stories to a standing-room-only crowd. Check out their annual Grand Story Slam event in February.

▶ Kidrobot, which makes limited-edition vinyl art toys and apparel, moved its headquarters from NYC to Boulder, citing the town's identity as an "arts hub" as a top reason.



Images (from top): ©Melonstone/dreamstime.com; ©iStock; Courtesy of The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas

ANNUAL ARTS FESTIVALS & EVENTS

Visit BoulderColoradoUSA.com/events for a complete calendar.

Colorado Shakespeare Festival ©University of Colorado Boulder/Glenn J. Asakawa

JANUARY

Boulder Philharmonic
boulderphil.org
303-449-1343
Boulder's orchestra for more than 50 years.

FEBRUARY

Boulder Ballet
boulderballet.org
303-443-0028
Annual imaginative and contemporary show.

Boulder International Film Festival
biff1.com, 303-449-2283
Celebrities, red carpet, films, workshops, panels and parties.

MARCH

Boulder Bach Festival
boulderbachfestival.org
303-776-9666
Local area orchestras, choruses, soloists and nationally known musicians.

LOCAL LAB New Play Festival
localtheatercompany.org
720-379-4470
Three days of new works, swanky gatherings and a master playwriting class.

APRIL

Boulder Arts Week
boulderartsweek.org
A community-wide celebration of all the arts.

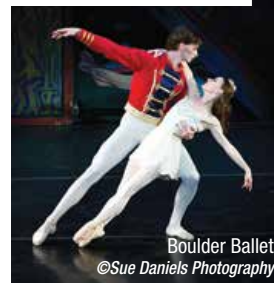
Celebrate Dance Month
artsresource.org/dance-bridge
303-441-4391
Dance performances, workshops, master classes, films and dance parties.



The Makerie ©Teryn Wilkes



Boulder Philharmonic with Frequent Flyers® Aerial Dance and Boulder Ballet ©Glenn Ross



Boulder Ballet ©Sue Daniels Photography

Communikey Festival

cmky.org
An intersection of sound, design and technology in unique artistic forms.

Conference on World Affairs

colorado.edu/cwa
303-492-2525
A week full of thought-provoking panel discussions on the CU campus.

The Makerie

themakerie.com
303-885-3807
A creative retreat for skilled and beginning crafters alike.

Taste of Pearl

boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
From the heart of America's Foodiest Town (Bon Appétit), an afternoon exploring Boulder's culinary arts scene.

Tulip Fairy & Elf Festival

boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
The Tulip Fairy and her pint-sized helpers celebrate over 15,000 tulips in bloom on the Pearl Street Mall.

MAY

Boulder Creek Festival
bceproductions.com
303-449-3137
Huge Memorial Day weekend festival along Boulder Creek.

Boulder Home & Garden Fair
homeandgardenmag.com
303-443-0600
Local style on display at the Twenty Ninth Street mall.

Boulder Startup Week

boulderstartupweek.com
Five-day conference where attendees learn about Boulder's creative take on entrepreneurialism.

Chautauqua Summer Festival

chautauqua.com
303-442-3282
Concerts, films, speakers and festivals at a National Historic Landmark. Through September.

Mahler Fest

mahlerfest.org
303-447-0513
For more than 25 years, Mahler's music is celebrated with orchestral concerts, a symposium and voice recitals.

JUNE

Bands on the Bricks

boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
Local musicians play Pearl Street every Wed. at 5:30pm for 10 weeks in summer.

Colorado Music Festival

comusic.org
303-665-0599
Classical music festival performed in the historic Chautauqua Auditorium through August.

Colorado Shakespeare Festival

coloradoshakes.org
303-492-8008
Shakespeare under the stars on the CU campus. Through early August.

Hanuman Festival

hanumanfestival.com
Four days with world-class yoga instructors, music and inspirational experiences.

Naropa Summer Writing Program

naropa.edu, 303-245-4862
Over four weeks, participants meet with some of the most accomplished and provocative writers of our time.

Twenty Ninth Street LIVE

twentyninthstreet.com
303-444-0722
Great outdoor concert series on Saturdays through August.



Firefly Handmade Market ©Rajendra Subhash Chaudhari

JULY

Boulder Festival of the Arts on Twenty Ninth Street
twentyninthstreet.com
303-444-0722
An open-air arts bazaar, complete with views of the Flatirons.

Open Arts Fest
boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
Artisans display their work on the open-air Pearl Street Mall.

AUGUST

Aerial Dance Festival
frequentflyers.org
303-245-8272
Celebrate the joy of dancing in the air with two weeks of classes and performances.

Boulder Creek Hometown Festival
bceproductions.com
303-449-3137
Great entertainment along the banks of Boulder Creek.

SEPTEMBER

Boulder International Fringe Festival
boulderfringe.com
303-803-5643
Twelve-day unjuried, uncensored arts events in unexpected places.

CU Presents

Artist Series

cupresents.org
303-492-8008
The world's finest jazz, classical world music and dance — including Boulder's own Grammy-award-winning Takács Quartet — come to CU's Macky Auditorium, September-April.

Downtown Boulder Fall Fest
boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
Three-day festival with artists' booths, music and a children's carnival.

Fashion's Night Downtown Boulder
boulderdowntown.com
303-449-3774
A fashion show plus in-store special events, live music, food, mini-makeovers and shopping.

Sans Souci Festival of Dance Cinema
sanssoucifest.org
A niche film festival specializing in dance cinema and incorporating live performance. Through December.



Colorado Shakespeare Festival ©University of Colorado/Glenn J. Asakawa

New! Boulder Arts Week

Late March-early April, boulderartsweek.org
For 10 solid days, all of Boulder is jam-packed with performances, exhibits and special events all over town.

OCTOBER

Adventure Film Festival
adventurefilm.org
Thirty-some films and workshops celebrating the power of nature and stories of adventure.

Open Studios Fall Artist Tour
openstudios.org
303-444-1862
Visit the studios and homes of over 130 Boulder artists for two weekends.

NOVEMBER

The Nutcracker Ballet
boulderballet.org
303-443-0028
The Boulder Ballet performs the classic accompanied by the Boulder Philharmonic.

DECEMBER

CU Presents Holiday Festival
cupresents.org
303-492-8008
A favorite holiday tradition featuring classical music.

Firefly Handmade Market
fireflyhandmade.com
A market full of staggeringly creative handmade goods. The market takes place in summer and fall, too.



Taste of Pearl ©Downtown Boulder, Inc.

NoBo Arts District

More than 220 artists and creative industries are clustered along Broadway in North Boulder, right alongside hotels, restaurants, wineries and breweries. First Friday art walks happen 6-9pm on the first Friday of each month, excluding January and July.

Twenty Ninth Street

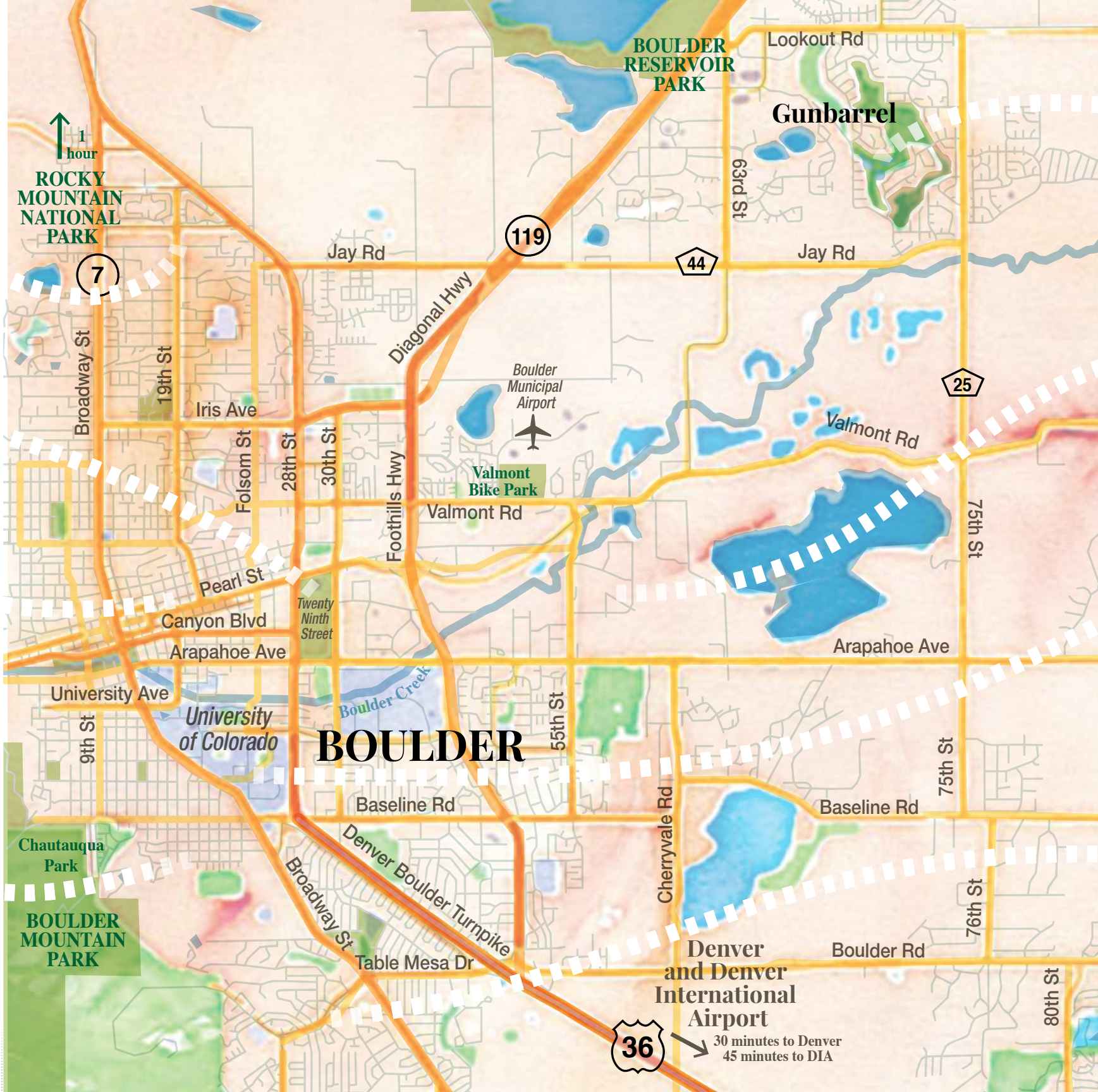
Dining, shopping, a brewery and outdoor summertime festivals are found at this shopping mall.

Historic Downtown and Pearl Street Mall

The soul of Boulder is lined with galleries, shopping, acclaimed restaurants, hotels and breweries. Pearl Street is a "living stage," with frequent festivals, weekly live music events in summertime and daily street performers year-round.

Chautauqua District

This National Historic Landmark offers lodging, concerts at Chautauqua Auditorium, cultural events and dining — all beside the iconic Flatirons, with hiking trails winding up into the foothills.



Gunbarrel Area

A neighborhood in northeast Boulder that's close to the Boulder Reservoir and home to Leanin' Tree Museum of Western Art, Shelby American Museum, Celestial Seasonings tea company, hotels, restaurants, a winery and breweries.

Eastern Boulder Industrial Area

Galleries, theaters, distilleries, breweries, restaurants and wineries populate this up-and-coming warehouse district.

University of Colorado Campus and University Hill

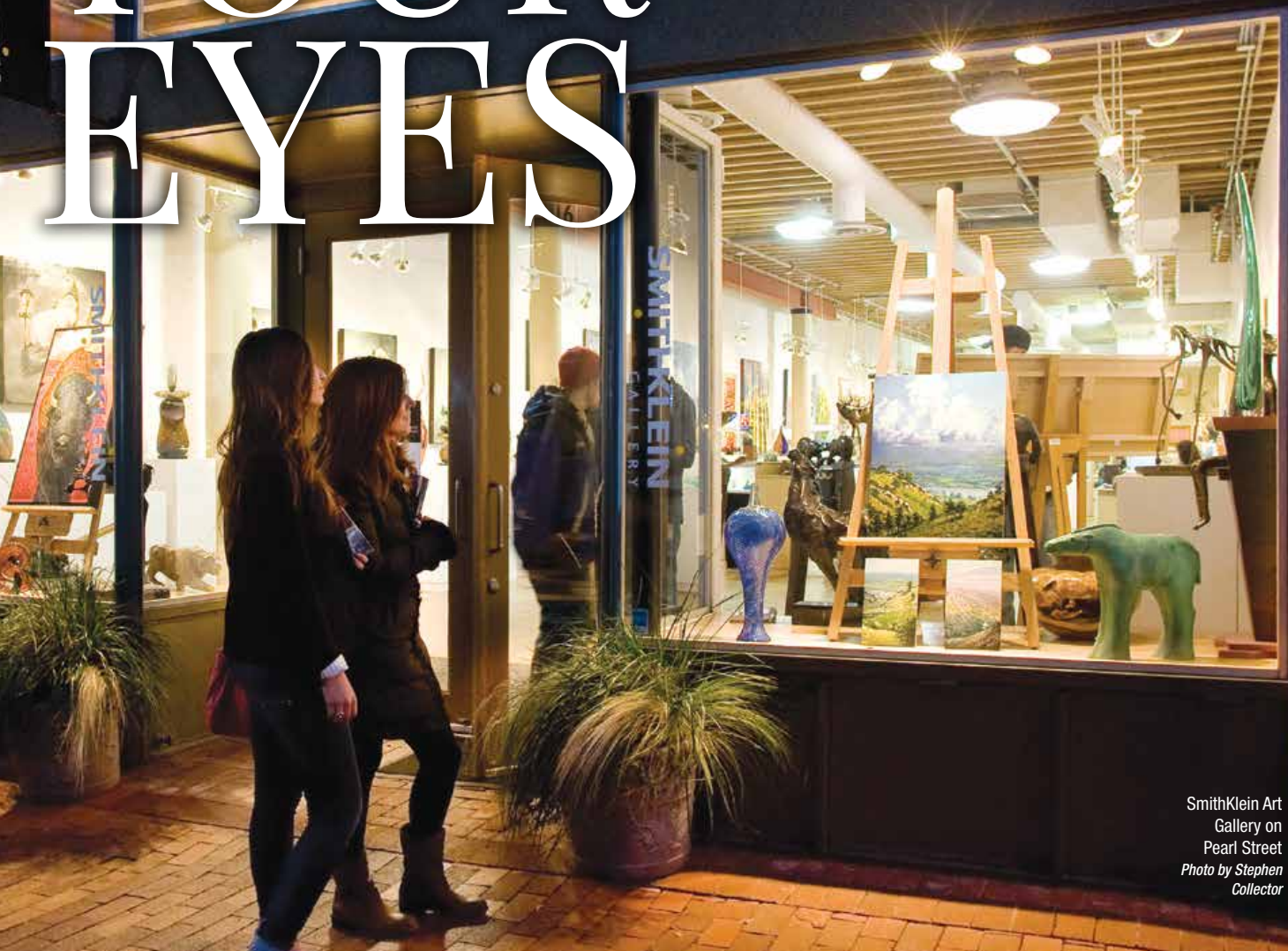
CU is a cultural center and home to several museums, as well as the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Macky Auditorium, University Theatre, ATLAS Black Box theater and much more. Neighboring University Hill ("The Hill" to locals) has a museum, cafés, restaurants, bookshops and student culture.

Southwest Boulder

Some of the nation's top federal laboratories are here, alongside restaurants, breweries and residential neighborhoods.

FEAST YOUR EYES

Boulder's thriving visual arts scene means plenty of galleries to explore, many on or near the lively, pedestrian Pearl Street. You'll find artwork to admire in every medium.



SmithKlein Art Gallery on Pearl Street
Photo by Stephen Collector



The Flatirons
Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons

Mini Itinerary

A Photographer's Tour of Boulder

If you love photography, don't miss the best ways to see Boulder through the lens.

Morning

Not many people know about this spot to photograph the Flatirons: Head to the top of the parking garage at **14th and Walnut St.** and catch the morning light. Walk a few blocks to **Trident Café** for a cup of coffee and to peruse the adjoining bookstore's excellent art book selection.

Afternoon

Lunch at the dazzling **Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse** is a must. It was handcrafted and painted in Tajikistan, shipped to Boulder and assembled piece by piece. Next, a stroll through **CU's campus** will have you snapping shots of vine-covered stone bridges, historical architecture and vibrant student life.

Evening

Early evening light can be magical on **Pearl Street**, especially when street performers, strolling couples and families turn it into a living stage. Duck into the **artful alley** between **Pearl and Spruce on 13th** for a unique backdrop, and capture some interesting angles on the historic **Boulder Theater** marquee as it lights up in early evening.

Creative Culture

With the 8th highest concentration of artists in the country, creativity is found in every corner of Boulder. There are more than 30 art galleries, four museums, 32 movie and stage theaters, and a huge variety of cultural performances each year.



Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse
Photo courtesy of the Boulder Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Perfect DAY

ACCORDING TO STEVE SPENCER



Steve Spencer is a local painter and manager of the free tour program at Celestial Seasonings,

where 140,000 visitors per year come to see the tea manufacturer's original art and take a tour. His own paintings are beloved by locals who find them hanging in local eateries.

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND YOUR IDEAL DAY IN BOULDER?

I'd start with breakfast at the **Chautauqua Dining Hall** and a walk up one of the trails around the **Flatirons**. I'd take a watercolor pad and find a spot to paint one of the spectacular views or just a close-up view of nature.

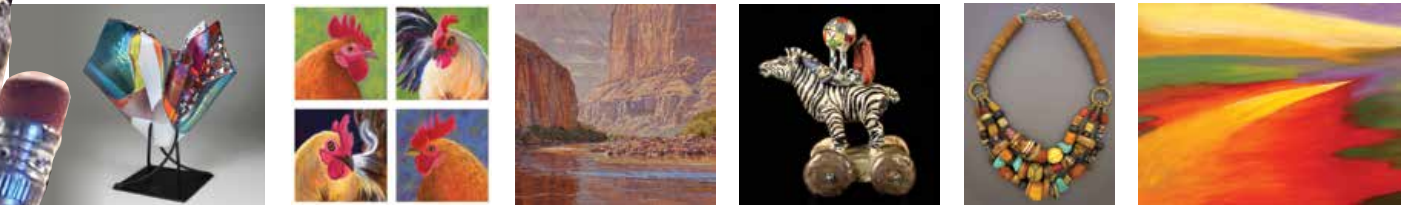
Getting around Boulder is best done on foot or bicycle, and it's all downhill to **Moe's Broadway Bagels** for lunch. Then it's just a few blocks to **Pearl Street** and the **Boulder Arts and Crafts Gallery**. Several hours and several galleries later, as the sun sets over the mountains, I might watch some street performers or spend the evening at the **Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, dinner at **Frasca Food and Wine** or **Oak on Fourteenth**, and a chocolate from **Piece, Love and Chocolate**.

Whew! I'm exhausted. But maybe just a quiet walk through a beautiful, older, **residential neighborhood** to end a day that celebrates the unique quality of life that Boulder offers, where artful living comes naturally.

GO INSIDE THE VISUAL ARTS SCENE

Boulder's artists are a welcoming bunch, opening their studio doors to guests and sharing tips on little-known art gems around town.

Annette Coleman's studio workplace
Photo by Kim Farin



ARTWORK (from left): "Sunset Holding Bronze" by Bobbi Vischi (kiln-formed and flame-worked glass); "Kauai Rooster Quartet" by Astrid Paustian (oil); "Downstream from Saddle Canyon" by Elizabeth Black (oil on panel); "Having a Ball" by Caroline Douglas (stoneware with slips and glazes, salt-fired to cone); "Ablaze" by Anna Holland (ethnic jewelry made with antique beads and artifacts); "The Journey's End" by Diana Tripp (pastel)



Open Studios
@photosbypinque.com



Open Studios
@photosbypinque.com

Open Studios Fall Artist Tour

Nothing inspires a deeper appreciation for a work of art than meeting the artist behind it. That's why for the first two weekends in October, noon-6pm each day, Boulder artists invite the public into their private studios. During the **Open Studios Fall Artist Tour**, meet favorite local photographers, watch an oil painting appear on canvas before your eyes or learn the meaning behind a seemingly abstract sculpture. You can also purchase art directly from the artists.

Last year more than 130 artists participated, and the list continues to grow.

The best way to experience Open Studios is to purchase their annual map at openstudios.org, where you'll also find a directory of artists, studio demonstration times, children's activities and more. It's a great way to explore Boulder's neighborhoods and off-the-beaten-path spots.

Visiting at another time of year? Check our calendar of events on page 4 for many more events.

HIDDEN GEMS



CU Heritage Center, Old Main building
©University of Colorado

► **Celestial Seasonings** This internationally known tea company offers free tours and tastings daily. Come early or stay late to take in the gallery of artwork from their famous tea boxes.

► **NoBo Arts District Art Walk** Every month, on the first Friday, North Boulder's up-and-coming arts district, along North Broadway, hosts an art walk, 6-9pm. Just look for the bright pink flags for participating galleries, studios and shops — as well as a series of "little libraries" — sculpturally designed mini-libraries that serve the community on the honor system.

► **University of Colorado's Heritage Center** Tucked away on the third floor of CU's Old Main are several fascinating collections, including an architecture gallery and a tribute to CU alum and famed musician Glenn Miller.

► **National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)** This esteemed national laboratory not only offers visitor tours and interactive exhibits, they also feature a rotating display of artwork.

► **Canyon Gallery at the Boulder Public Library** This airy public gallery showcases the work of local, national and international artists. While you're here, notice the library's striking entrance pavilion, filled with light. The severed cone of the pavilion mimics the Flatirons.

(Note: The Boulder Public Library will be undergoing renovation until 2015. Please confirm the Canyon Gallery is open before visiting.)

CURATING THE ECLECTIC



From Shelby Mustangs to sophisticated multimedia installations, Boulder's museums expertly present thoughtful — and thought-provoking — collections.

Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art (BMoCA) ©BMoCA

Leanin' Tree Museum and Sculpture Garden of Western Art ©Denise Chambers



Boulder's Must-See Museums

Art

One of the town's most well-respected arts destinations is the **Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art (BMoCA)**, with genre-bending exhibits that explore art in the most contemporary sense. BMoCA is located in the heart of Boulder and is free during the Saturday Boulder Farmers' Market (which itself is a feast for the eyes). Also visit the **CU Art Museum**, featuring spacious galleries, a video room and a permanent collection that includes works by Diego Rivera, Francisco Goya and Andy Warhol. In the northerly Gunbarrel neighborhood, you'll find **Leanin' Tree Museum and Sculpture Garden of Western Art**, with a large collection of paintings and bronze sculptures celebrating the American West, plus a peaceful sculpture garden. Combine a visit with a tour of nearby **Celestial Seasonings'** tea factory.

History

The **Boulder History Museum** has a permanent collection on Boulder's people and past, as well as rotating exhibits on topics ranging from Boulder beer to rock 'n roll. Further afield is the **Shelby American Collection**, an automobile aficionado's dream come true.

Science

The **University of Colorado Museum of Natural History** holds two floors of textiles, pottery, insect specimens and fossils, including a flying reptile skeleton that measures 15 feet across. CU's revamped **Fiske Planetarium** now displays 20 million stars in dazzling clarity with new state-of-the-art technology and an entertaining lineup of shows. And both the **National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)** and **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** offer visitor programs.



Shelby American Collection ©Dave Lindsay/SoCalCarCulture.com

The Perfect DAY

ACCORDING TO NANCY GEYER



Nancy Geyer is CEO of the Boulder History Museum, which is known for

creative exhibits about Boulder culture — from beer to dogs to rock 'n roll. Nancy is leading the museum's plan to convert a historic Masonic Lodge in downtown Boulder into a new, 18,000-square-foot space for the museum.

WHAT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN YOUR IDEAL DAY IN BOULDER?

My perfect day includes spending time with my family, friends and 12-year-old golden retriever, Jazmine. It starts with an early-morning hike on the **Mesa Trail** toward the **National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR)**, which winds along the foothills. Then we would enjoy brunch in the **Chautauqua Dining Hall**. Chautauqua has such a wonderful history and an absolutely beautiful setting.

Next, we would swing by the **Boulder History Museum**, so I could show my friends the latest exhibit and pick up the map for the **Boulder Creek Path History Tour**. We'd then bike the Boulder Creek Path and stop at the locations indicated on the map to learn a little history along the way.

We would wander through the colorful **Boulder Farmers' Market** and stop by **BMoCA**, with a stop off at the **Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse** for some late-afternoon tea and a snack.

I love **eTown**, so if there were a live taping that evening, that would be at the top of my list. After the show, we would head down to **Pearl Street** for a late-night dinner at one of the many world-class restaurants.

WHERE ARTISANS ABOUND

The craft and DIY (do-it-yourself) movements are strong in Boulder, where homegrown creativity seems to spring eternal.

Two Hands Paperie instructor at The Makerie creative retreat ©Teryn Wilkes

Textiles at Fabricate ©Fabricate



Mini Itinerary

A Very Crafty Tour of Boulder

Admire the handiwork of Boulder's artisans and find supplies for your own creations.

Morning

Stop in to admire the graphic textiles at **Fabricate** or the glimmering strings of beads inside the artful **Nomad Beads** shop. Then stop by **Art Mart** and the **Boulder Arts & Crafts Gallery** to see goods for sale from some of Boulder's top artisans — woodworkers, potters, jewelry-makers, photographers and more.

Afternoon

Take a class at **Two Hands Paperie**, a local stationery shop on the west end of Pearl Street that offers tons of courses, from bookmaking to rubber-stamp carving. At the other end of Pearl Street is **madelife**, an organization that helps launch local artist entrepreneurs, with classes and a shop featuring finely crafted modern furniture, home goods and jewelry.

Evening

Paint your own pottery at **Color Me Mine**; get working on your next masterpiece at **Push**; a "paint and wine studio;" or craft away at **Tinker Art Studio** on Friday art nights. Now it's time for a handcrafted beer or cocktail. Try **Avery Brewing Company** for cold brews or **Bitter Bar** for crafty concoctions.

Want more?

Plan a visit around a craft event or artisan bazaars. See page 4.



ARTWORK (from left): Painted bunting by Mullanium, Raku vase by Nancy Rukan and espresso cups by Thea Tenenbaum at Boulder Arts & Crafts Gallery

For your next visit to Boulder, register the kiddos for fun arts classes and camps. Find more info at BoulderColoradoUSA.com/kids-arts.

The Perfect DAY

ACCORDING TO LEAH BRENNER



Leah Brenner is the executive director and curator of **madelife**, an artist-centered store and gallery in downtown Boulder. A CU Boulder alum, Leah has lived

and worked in Boulder for the past 17 years. Passionate about promoting and connecting local artists, Leah spends her free time going to art shows, seeing live music, rock climbing, snowboarding, hiking with her dogs and practicing yoga.

HOW WOULD YOU SPEND YOUR PERFECT DAY IN BOULDER?

My perfect day in Boulder starts with a Vinyasa class led by Rob Loud at the **Yoga Pod**. After yoga, we would have brunch at **Tangerine**, which is the best under-the-radar brunch in Boulder (the chicken and waffles are not to be missed!).

In the afternoon, I'd take a creative workshop at the **Boulder School of Metals** (Introduction to Metal Working) or at **madelife** (Screenprinting 101 or Terrarium Building). After class, we'd make our way to the featured art exhibit or opening reception at **BMoCA** (Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art) or the **CU Art Museum**.

Dinner would be at **Sushi Tora**, then after-dinner drinks at the **Bitter Bar**. If we were lucky, there would also be a great band at the **Boulder Theater** or **Fox Theatre** to end the night.

BOULDER MOVES



In a town filled with people who just can't seem to sit still, is it any wonder that Boulder has 30 dance studios and more than 100 dance teachers? Dance is one of this town's biggest artistic passions.

3rd Law Dance/Theater
©Luminosity



Boulder Ballet ©Sue Daniels Photography

Mini Itinerary

A Dancer's Tour of Boulder

Pirouette your way around Boulder's most beloved dance spots.

Morning

Start the day with an energy-packed **Rush Bowl** — a locally made, blended, fruit-and-granola concoction — from their storefront on University Hill. Then have a good stretch at one of dozens of **yoga studios** in Boulder. *Yoga Journal* says Boulder has “an unbeatable yoga scene.”

Afternoon

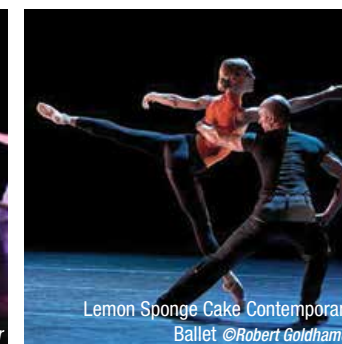
Swing by **Boulder Body Wear** for great dance supplies and stylish street wear, too. While you're in the area, why not stop in **Essentiels Day Spa** for a relaxing massage? Lunch at **Arabesque**, a delicious cafe run by a professional dancer-turned-chef, is a must.

Evening

Catch a performance by one of the Dairy Center for the Arts' resident dance organizations, including the stellar **Boulder Ballet**, **Helander Dance Theater**, **3rd Law Dance/Theater** or **One Big Yes Productions**. Or get your own groove on at the **Twenty Ninth Street Live** or **Bands on the Bricks** outdoor concerts.



Frequent Flyers® Aerial Dance ©Robert Goldhamer



Lemon Sponge Cake Contemporary Ballet ©Robert Goldhamer

Into Thin Air

Frequent Flyers® Aerial Dance takes movement to new heights in Boulder with dance-theater performances that will take your breath away. You can also try one of their aerial yoga classes for yourself!

The Perfect Day

ACCORDING TO
NANCY CRANBOURNE



Nancy Cranbourne is the director and owner of One Big Yes Productions, a film, dance and theater production company that arose as an

extension of Nancy's dance company, 40 Women Over 40. One of her goals is to give dancers of all ages and levels opportunities to perform. Nancy's classes are known for being nurturing, fun and, at times, like “one big comedy show.”

HOW WOULD YOU FILL YOUR PERFECT DAY IN BOULDER?

I would start out having a cup of coffee at **Boxcar Coffee Roasters**, and I'd also pick up some meats and cheeses to go from **Cured**, which shares a space with Boxcar. I'm kind of a food nut, and as a dancer, you have to eat.

For a breakfast out, I'd go to **Q's Restaurant** and have the huevos. I go there once a weekend with my husband.

I'd have to do some yoga. Bari Campbell at **Core Power Yoga** is one of my favorites. I'd take her yoga sculpt class. For lunch, I'd meet someone for a little bite at **Pizzeria Locale** — with wine. I believe in acting like an Italian even though I'm Swedish.

I'd catch a movie at **the Boe** (the Boedecker Theater) or something live at **The Dairy** (Dairy Center for the Arts). I love to see any kind of live performance there or to stop in at **BMoCA** or one of Boulder's other arts venues. If there were time, I'd have a margarita at **Centro** and maybe stop in **Fresh Thymes** for dinner (they have gluten-free options). If it's winter, I'd cozy up with my hubby by the fireplace or we'd have friends over for drinks on the patio in summer.

SOUNDS AROUND TOWN

Musicians from all walks of life call Boulder home — and with plenty of musical inspiration right out the back door, the sounds of the city reflect its true nature.



Boulder Theater ©Boulder Theater



CU Presents Holiday Festival ©University of Boulder/Glenn J. Asakawa

Legendary Live Music

Rock Spots

With 1,300 or so live music performances each year in Boulder, you're sure to catch a show that's music to your ears. While you're likely to stumble upon musicians playing on the street, in coffeehouses and in our 20-plus breweries and distilleries without even trying, here are a few legendary places to seek out:

The historic **Boulder Theater** originally opened in 1906 as an opera house. The venue has been a favorite for rock, folk, rap and more for over a century and is a Colorado Historic Landmark. For more local and national acts, visit the **Fox Theatre**, located on The Hill across from the University of Colorado. The venue was recently voted fourth-best music club in the country by *Rolling Stone*.

Lovers of public radio should snag tickets to a live taping of **eTown**, a weekly music radio program that's broadcast nationally on NPR. The program's new **eTown Hall** is lauded as the greenest music venue in Colorado.

In summer, **Chautauqua Auditorium** opens for its annual concert series. Musician Shawn Colvin compared the acoustics of this simple, all-wood structure to playing inside a guitar. Bring a pre-concert picnic, sit under 100-year-old trees and soak up the views of the Flatirons.

Classical City

With a well-established **Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra**, **Boulder Chamber Orchestra** and **Boulder Symphony Orchestra**, plus the budding **Boulder Opera Company**, classical music lovers will be right at home in Boulder.

Check out the **Boulder Public Library Concert Series'** free Canyon Theater concerts (including lunchtime shows), and see page 4 for events such as the esteemed **Colorado Music Festival**, **Boulder Bach Festival** and **CU Presents** series.



Chautauqua Summer Series ©Werner R. Slocum

The Perfect Day

ACCORDING TO
BIG HEAD TODD
AND THE MONSTERS



Since their formation in the mid 80s, followed by their hit song "Bittersweet," Boulder's Big Head Todd and the Monsters has gone on to national fame. They remain a local favorite and return to Boulder for a few shows every year. Here, two of the guys share their perfect day in Boulder.

WHAT WOULD YOUR IDEAL DAY IN BOULDER LOOK LIKE?

ROB: Start the day with breakfast and bloodies at the legendary **The Sink** on the Hill. Watch the **Bufs** [CU's football team] kick our opponents' butts on the gridiron and finish with a concert at the **Boulder Theater**.

BRIAN: I'd start with breakfast at **Tangerine** then a pilates class at **Center Stream Pilates**. Next, I'd grab a coffee at **The Laughing Goat** before a browse through **Albums On The Hill** and a hike up **Chautauqua**. I'd have dinner at **Frasca Food and Wine** and then meet up with Rob for a concert at the **Boulder Theater** and a nightcap at **The Corner Bar**.

GET IN ON THE ACT

Never is Boulder's infectious energy more entertaining than up on stage, where local theater groups bring in eager audiences.

Colorado Shakespeare Festival attendees can enjoy entertainment on the green before every show — from Bardish rock bands to minstrels, jugglers and jesters — plus a garden featuring plants referenced in Shakespeare's writings.
©University of Colorado/
Casey A. Cass



Boulder International Fringe Festival ©Boulder International Fringe Festival



Boulder Theater
©Denise Chambers



LOCAL Theatre Company
©Michael Ensminger

See Boulder on Stage

They say that all the world's a stage, and that definitely rings true in Boulder. Here are a few ways to enjoy Boulder's theater talent:

Each year, the **Colorado Shakespeare Festival** brings the best of the Bard to audiences under the stars in CU's historic Mary Rippon Outdoor Theatre, as well as in the newly renovated indoor University Theatre.

For a fun dinner-and-show combination, **Boulder's Dinner Theatre** puts on productions of Broadway hits like *Chicago*, *Avenue Q*, and *Monty Python's Spamalot*.

Local theater troupes abound and include the **Nomad Theatre**, Boulder's longest-running resident theater group; the unique **Stories on Stage**, whose actors do compelling

readings of great literature;

Boulder Ensemble Theater Company; **square product theater**; **Catamounts**; **Upstart Crow Theatre Company**; **LOCAL Theatre Company** and more.

For something off the beaten path, check out **Boulder International Fringe Festival** — 12 days packed with plays, dance, spoken-word poetry, puppetry and storytelling, held in venues across the city each September. Or take in a night of improv comedy with the **Boulder Improv Collaborative**.

Of course, there's also theater au naturel with **Theater-Hikes Colorado**, which combines hiking with theatrical performances that have ranged from *Alice in Wonderland* to *Dracula*.

Dairy Center for the Arts

The Dairy Center (which was once — you guessed it — a dairy), has become an incubator for the arts. It has three theaters, 11 arts organizations, 25 music and dance studios, galleries, and puts on countless theater, dance, music and art events. The Dairy's Boedecker Theater, one of the leading arts cinemas in the country, offers Boulder access to nearly 1,200 showings of documentaries, indie flicks and cultural programs each year.

The Perfect DAY

ACCORDING TO
ELISABETH BOWMAN



A self-described "Colorado semi-native and reincarnated muppet," Elisabeth Bowman is a

writer, editor and improvisational actor. She has studied with the improv teachers from iO, Upright Citizens Brigade, The Second City and more.

WHAT WOULD YOUR IDEAL DAY IN BOULDER LOOK LIKE?

I'd start at **South Side Walnut Café** for a big, tasty breakfast. Then I'd head up into **Chautauqua** or another dog-friendly hiking spot in the foothills. I'd bring a lunch so we could enjoy the view.

Next, I'd ride my bike to **Pearl Street Mall**. It's kind of like going to the circus. It's colorful, busy and active, yet it feels intimate, like we're all having this shared experience, smiling and strolling — like we're in on a shared secret.

I'd head to the **Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse** for afternoon tea. After tea, I'd visit the **Boulder Bookstore**, where the staff recommendations are an invitation to try something new, and **Savory Spice Shop**, which is so intoxicating.

For dinner, maybe I'd have a bite to eat at **ModMarket**. It's gluten free and has reasonable prices. If **The Catamounts** has a performance, I'd definitely catch it that evening. They select phenomenal plays and produce high-caliber shows that transport me to another world — oftentimes a very bizarre, intriguing one.

A SAMPLE PUBLIC ART WALKING TOUR

The following nine spots represent just a small sampling of the dozens of public art installations all over Boulder. This walking tour is easily accessible from downtown hotels and is great for strolling, coffee in hand, in any weather. Get a taste for how Boulder's public art is accessible to all and reflects our unique Colorado culture and history.

Boulder
Dushanbe
Teahouse
©Wally Gobetz

Downtown Public Art Walking Tour

- A** **Bronze Cat sculpture**
Pearl St. and 16th St.
- B** **Bull Elk sculpture**
Pearl St. between 14th St. and 15th St.
- C** **Animal sculptures**
Pearl St. and 14th St.
- D** **Mountain Lion sculpture**
Pearl St. and 14th.
- E** **Hearts on a Swing sculpture**
Broadway and Pearl St.
- F** **Running Mural**
Broadway and Spruce St.
- G** **Charles A. Haertling Sculpture Garden** Includes the Chief Niwot sculpture, Giddy Up sculpture, and abstract sculptures. Canyon Blvd. and 9th St.
- H** **Dragonfly/Giraffe Sculpture**
South of Canyon Blvd. on the bike path between 9th St. and 11th St.
- I** **Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse**
13th St. between Canyon Blvd. and Arapahoe Ave.

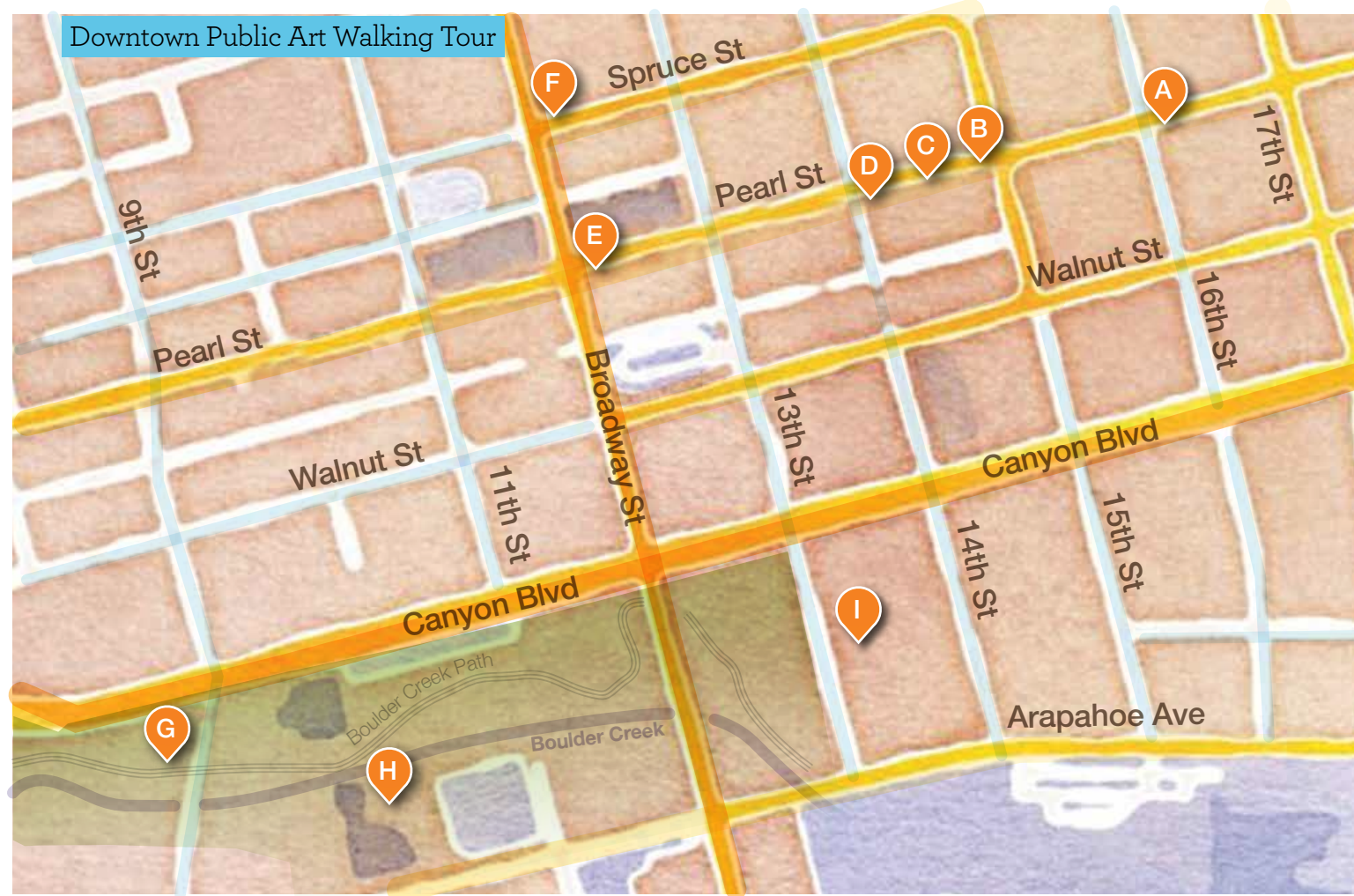
Tons More Public Art

The walking tour above is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to public art. Visit bouldercountyarts.org/public_art for a comprehensive list.

A few additional ideas for walkable exploration include heading south on Broadway to **The Hill**, where you'll find murals and graffiti art. While you're there, stop in for a slice of pizza at **The Sink**, where the walls are covered in customer art. Or drive north on Diagonal Highway and visit **The Leanin' Tree Museum and Sculpture Garden of Western Art**, which includes a free outdoor sculpture garden. Also download a free walking tour map of **28th Street Art** near the University of Colorado at BoulderColoradoUSA.com/visitor/maps.



ARTWORK (from left): "Bull Elk" sculpture; "Hearts on a Swing" sculpture; "Running" mural; "Mountain Lion" sculpture. All images ©Wally Gobetz



Snap this code to find these spots on your phone with our Google map. Or simply go to: tinyurl.com/BoulderPublicArt.

