



WHATS COMING UP AT KPF?

We have had such a successful and wonderful summer! Thank you so much to everyone who came out to support and participate in our programs. There are some really exciting things coming up! So scroll through, and check out what we have going on!

**Read a special message from our
Executive Director, Casey Grooten,
at the end of this newsletter!**

THANK YOU DONORS

We Met Our Goal!



**Because of your support we
will receive a match grant of
\$20k from the MEDC towards
the new public art pocket park
Washington Square Gateway
Park**



CONTACT US

director@edisonneighborhood.com

The Edison Neighborhood Association received all \$20,000 towards their match grant goal. Which means, if you donated, your money was doubled! Because of the success of this campaign, there will now be a new pocket park in the Washington Square Area of the Edison Neighborhood. The park will feature, amongst other things, a mural of the KPF All Things Possible Youth Poem!

The All Things Possible Youth Poem will be featured in a new mural in the Edison Neighborhood!



Check out the Edison Neighborhood Association

The Air Poetry Reading and Open Mic at Kazoo Books was a hit! Even the rain could not stop us! Thank you especially to Markeva Love, Laura Citino, and Jessica Ivey for performing, and Kazoo Books for being an amazing host!







**What is Kazoo
Books?**

**There are some really great performance
opportunities coming up! Check them out!**

SEPTEMBER
2025

FIRST FRIDAY OPEN MIC

First Friday
lets Vibe
Connect and
spread some
Poetry

Fire Historical Arts
Collaborative

Host: EgypTrinity



GET READY TO
VIBE THE FIRE
WAY!

September 5th 2025
At fire
1249 Portage St Kalamazoo MI
49001

09/5
2025

doors open @5:30pm
6-8pm

open mic list open to
all talents

FEA
TUR
ING

ZO
PERFORMING
POETRY!



[Thisisfire.org](https://thisisfire.org)

Learn more about
Fire

VIRTUAL POETRY WORKSHOP

September 18, 2025 6pm-7:30pm

Mark
Your
Calendar!



Signup
Coming
Soon!

Molly Kirschner

Molly Kirschner is a poet, playwright, performer, and educator. Her poems have appeared in journals including The Southern Review, The New Ohio Review, and One Magazine, and four of her poems are forthcoming in Arion: A Journal of Humanities and the Classics. Kirschner was awarded the inaugural poetry residency at The Hundredth Hill: "Resilience: the Poet's Response to These Troubled Times." Her new manuscript was a Finalist for the 2021 Four Way Books Levis Prize in Poetry.

Read more about Molly's
workshop

SEPTEMBER 19. 2025

3RD FRIDAY OPEN MIC

AT

Legacy

313 NORTH BURDICK ST, KALAMAZOO



FEATURING

LIPSEY

 Institute of
Public
Scholarship

 KALAMAZOO
POETRY
FESTIVAL

7:30 - 9 PM

\$1 - \$5 SUGGESTED DONATION

 Artist

VIBE SETTER
DJ DISOBEDIENCE

OPEN MIC HOST
JESSICA IVEY

WWW.THEIPSNOW.ORG

Visit The
Institute

Last
Wednesdays

OPEN MIC NIGHT



with
Ray



1030 Portage St
Dormouse Theatre

Visit the Dormouse
Website

Last year, we had a super fun time at the spooky open mic that took place in October. This year we are planning it again, and are excited to invite you into the new Black Magic Media space, The Cauldron! Mark your calendars and get ready for a night of good poetry, music, costumes, and snacks!

H a l l o w e e n O p e n M i c
O c t o b e r 2 3
D o o r s O p e n 6 p m
@ T h e C a u l d r o n
8 1 2 W a s h i n g t o n A v e



Black Magic
Media

Dear Kalamazoo Poetry Festival friends,

This year has seen unprecedented cuts to arts funding, and this cut is felt right here in Kalamazoo. KPF has been fortunate for many years to rely upon grants from wonderful local and regional organizations. Although we

still hope to receive funding from several of these sources, we have to be honest. Now is the time that your donations matter most. You are probably hearing it everywhere from orgs like ours, but it is true. If you like what we do and want to see us continue, please help! Your donation doesn't have to be a huge dent in your wallet, there are other ways to support. You can sign up for a \$5 monthly recurring donation! If everyone on this newsletter signed up for a recurring donation like this, KPF could sustain not only its programming, but also GROW. This is why the board of directors hired me, to help fortify our solid base, and then build upon it. If you have ever attended one of our events, performed for us, or supported in another capacity, you know that we work hard to make it a good experience all around. We want to keep KPF events free, and KPF artists paid. Thank you so much for all that you do to support us already. I can speak for everyone here when I say we could not appreciate it more. We love you Kalamazoo!

Still in gratitude, AND resilience,
Casey Grooten
Executive Director, Kalamazoo Poetry Festival

Support
KPF!

Kalamazoo Poetry Festival | P.O. Box 19621 | Kalamazoo, MI 49019-9621 US

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