

# Week before Thanksgiving: 21st annual Festival of the Cranes

Socorro's There's Something for Everyone at the 21st Annual Festival of the Cranes. The sandhill cranes are beginning to arrive at the Bosque del Apache, but it isn't too early to start signing up to attend this year's Festival. This year's Festival begins Tuesday, Nov. 18 and runs through Sunday afternoon, Nov. 22, with events at a variety of venues, from the Bosque to Elephant Butte Reservoir, the VLA to Trinity Site, the Quebradas and Sevilleita, and in Socorro itself. There are workshops, tours and activities for those interested in the birds: seeing them, identifying

them by sight and sound, attracting them, studying their habits and their habitats, learning their evolutionary history. There will be activities for non-birders: photography, painting, writing, gardening, as well as tours and lectures on geology, Native American and early New Mexico history, geocaching, and Tai Chi. Thursday night Dr. Penelope Boston, Associate Director of the National Cave and Karst Research Institute and New Mexico Tech professor will describe her (sometimes dangerous!) experiences exploring the Fort Stanton Cave and its mysterious, crystalline Snowy River. The amazing animals and

geomicroorganisms that inhabit or visit the cave system play vital roles in surface and subsurface ecosystems and may some day be key to the creation of life-saving pharmaceuticals. Saturday night our guest is Dr. Peter Raven, President of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. Dr. Raven is a renowned expert in the preservation of endangered plants, while being a staunch advocate for conservation and a sustainable environment. He will focus on habitat destruction and climate change and its impact on species

survival in the 21st century. There will be guided hikes, family activities, and weekend experiences with kids in mind. Sevilleita National Wildlife Refuge will be featured in 3 tours, and the Gordon S. Ladd Waterfowl Complex near Bernardo will have volunteers on hand Saturday to show visitors the new decks and viewing areas available at the Complex. Schedule brochures can be picked up at the Chamber of Commerce, the Heritage and Visitors Center, Socorro Public Library and the

Skeen Library on the New Mexico Tech Campus. The schedule also is available online at: <http://friends-of-the-bosque.org/crane>. For more information call 835-2077. **Crayons coming...** After a year hiatus, the Festival of the Cranes is expected to return this year. The public art display on School of Mines Rd., is the creation of Rodaki, otherwise known as Rebecca Titus Taylor. Enjoy the giant crayons as you travel from the Plaza to the NM Tech campus.

## Birding through the lens: Photo ops abound during festival

Seeing and identifying sandhill cranes and snow geese take a certain amount of expertise, but photographing them takes patience, know-how and equipment! This year's Festival features several workshops aimed at honing the skills of professional and amateur photographers alike. Starting Tuesday, Nov. 18, Albuquerque wildlife photographer Jerry Goffe will host a 3-day in-depth hands-on try-out-equipment workshop emphasizing digital photography with long lenses. If those lenses don't provide the close-up experience you're seeking, Jeff Bouton of Leica will teach

participants how to use a digital camera with a spotting scope during workshops on Thursday and Saturday at the Bosque. For those who seek more practice in photographing birds in action, falconer and wildlife rehabilitator Matt Mitchell is offering a half-day workshop called Deadly Beauty Photography (Thursday). Participants will have the opportunity to photograph trained hawks and falcons hunting and catching prey. If you're a beginner when it comes to digital cameras, you can take part in an all-day workshop on Saturday with William Schlake Colburn called Digital Photogra-

phy for Beginners at the Macey Center. And for all photographers who have gone to great lengths to get the perfect shot, John Shipman will reveal the intricacies (and the humor!) of venturing into the bush with a variety of custom-made tripods for getting close ups in not-so-accommodating environments. Registration information can be found at <http://friends-of-the-bosque.org/crane>, by picking up a brochure at the Heritage and Visitor Center, Chamber of Commerce, Public Library or Skeen Library on the Tech campus, or by calling 835-2077.

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**LONDON FRONTIER THEATRE**  
presents  
**DARK PATH**  
through the  
WILDERNESS  
For Halloween & Dias de los Muertos, let masters of the macabre Edgar Allan Poe & Ambrose Bierce & New Mexico's own inquiet spirits lure you down the dark paths of the soul.  
Fri, OCT 24-7:00PM Sat, NOV 1-7:00PM  
Sat, OCT 25-7:00PM Sun, NOV 2-2:00PM  
Sun, OCT 26-2:00PM  
at MAGDALENA's historic WPA Theatre, Main at 4th  
TICKETS: Adult-\$9.50/Child-\$2.00; at Door before Performance, or by RESERVATION: (575) 854-2519 / [londonfrontier.org](http://londonfrontier.org)  
FURTHER INFORMATION [www.londonfrontiertheatre.com](http://www.londonfrontiertheatre.com)  
Funding by the McCune Foundation, Kerr Foundation, & LFTC Friends of the Theatre.

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## LFTC presents seasonal collage Dark Path Through the Wilderness

Magdalena's Halloween and Dias de los Muertos approach, the nights grow longer, just right for telling stories of strange happenings in the darkness: beyond the firelight. London Frontier Theatre presents Dark Path Through the Wilderness, Oct. 24-26 and again the next weekend. DARK PATH incorporates three tales of the macabre, eerie, and magical, for an evening of deliciously scary fun and often hilarious entertainment. The Cask of Amontillado is the first act of PATH. Adapted from the story by master of horror Edgar Allan Poe, and set during Italian carnival in a past century, Amontillado tells a tale of two noblemen and the fiendish revenge that one takes upon the other. Into Darkness is a blending of stories, with the pervading atmosphere of lurking menace that Ambrose Bierce created so well in his 19th-century writings.

(Bierce is also known for his Civil War stories, including Incident at Owl Creek Bridge, and for The Devil's Dictionary. Bierce himself mysteriously disappeared in Mexico in 1913.) Toil and Trouble, the third act of PATH, brings together three practitioners of the magic arts: a New Mexican cuandera/perhaps-bruja, a traditional country healing woman, and a New-Age crystal-wielder, all facing the same problem: with lack of faith, and a failing economy, who can afford to believe in magic remedies and spells? Actors in PATH are Frank Howard, Ruth Ryan, Bennie Zamora, and Donna Todd of Magdalena, and Fernando Montano, of Socorro. Script/adaptations and direction are by Donna Todd. Performances are Friday, October 24th and Saturday, October 25th, both at 7:00 PM, with a matinee on

Sunday, October 26th at 2:00 PM, Saturday, November 1st, 7:00 PM, and Sunday, November 2nd, 2:00 PM, at Magdalena's historic WPA Theatre, Main at Fourth. Tickets are \$8.50 for adults, \$2.00 for children, available at the door one hour before performance, and by Reservation at (575) 854-2519, or [londonfrontier@gilane.com](mailto:londonfrontier@gilane.com); further information at [www.londonfrontiertheatre.com](http://www.londonfrontiertheatre.com). London Frontier, now in its historic WPA venue and its 13th season in Magdalena, continues to present a wide variety of plays including the popular Lost Wife Creek series incorporating our vivid multi-culture and history in exciting entertaining theatre. This project funded in part by the McCune Foundation of Santa Fe, the Kerr Foundation of Oklahoma, Socorro Electric Cooperative, & LFTC's Friends of the Theatre.

## Steppin' Out Calendar of Events.....

(Continued from Page 9)

Sat., 622-0985 or 622-6298

**Sat., Nov. 22**  
Carriazo - 3rd annual Burro Serenade 401 12th St. burro dinner and preview 5-6 pm.; 7 pm auction. 575-648-2598. [galleria408@tulerosa.net](mailto:galleria408@tulerosa.net)  
Magdalena - Blue Canyon Gallery hosts Chili Contest, prizes, 6 pm. 575-854-2953

**Weekend, Nov. 28-30**  
Abq Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival, EXPO, 292-7457  
Abq little Theatre presents Miracle on 34th Street, thru Dec. 21, 242-4750  
Aztec - Fantasy of Lights Holiday Show, Riverside Park. 6 pm nightly thru December. 505-334-1111  
Corrales - Comales Society of Artist's Holiday Art Festival, 10 am. Corrales Reek Center. [www.corralesartists.org](http://www.corralesartists.org)  
Las Cruces - Holiday Antique & Crafts Show & Sale, St. Genevieve's Church. 575-526-8624  
Roswell - Christmas Fantasy Convention & Civic Center. Fr &

**Sat., Nov. 29**  
Abq Holiday River of Lights, thru December, Rio Grande Botanic Garden, Old Town. 505-768-2000 [www.cabq.gov/biopark](http://www.cabq.gov/biopark)  
Belen - Annual Christmas Festival, arts & crafts, Snow Queen Contest, light display, Anna Becker Park. 505-864-0584  
Socorro - Pesto Cook-off Socorro Plaza, Socorro Chamber of Commerce. 575-835-0424

**DECEMBER**  
**Tue., Dec. 2**  
Magdalena - Blue Canyon Gallery hosts Shop Close to Home promo, all month. 575-854-2953  
Roswell - 6th annual Angel Gala, silent & live auction, 822-8900 or [cfc@questoffice.net](mailto:cfc@questoffice.net)

**Thurs., Dec. 4**  
Alto - Spencer Theater presents Flying J Wranglers Christmas, 8 pm. [www.spencertheater.com](http://www.spencertheater.com) or call 575-336-4800.

**Sat., Dec. 6**  
Aztec - Imagine the Enchantment Festival, Aztec Community Center, arts & crafts, 505-334-9551  
Belen - La Gran Pastorela De Belen, traditional folk play sung in Spanish, Harvey House, 6 pm. 505-864-8547  
Roswell - Main Street Electric Light Parade  
Ruidoso - Electric Light Parade: Midtown Ruidoso through midtown starts at 5:30 p.m. from corner of Sudderth/Mechem to the Pizza Hut; 575-257-7395, [www.ruidosofolk.org](http://www.ruidosofolk.org)

**Ruidoso** - Christmas in the Park, part of the Festival of Lights, Tree Lighting, Schoolhouse Park, 6 p.m. Free admission 1-888-715-4448

**Weekend of Dec. 5-7**  
La Cruces - a Casa Bazaar fund raiser for shelter for domestic violence victims and families; arts and crafts, preview party, silent auction, Dickerson's Event Center, 3900 W Picacho, 575-526-2819  
Roswell - Community Little Theatre 7:30 pm, Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's production of A Christmas Carol, Comedy with music, 622-1982, [www.roswelllittletheatre.com](http://www.roswelllittletheatre.com)  
Socorro - Fri. night only, 5th annual Luminarias on the Plaza and Beyond Art Stroll, 5-8 pm. 585-895-8927

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