THE YORK MSPRINT

York, Pennsylvania

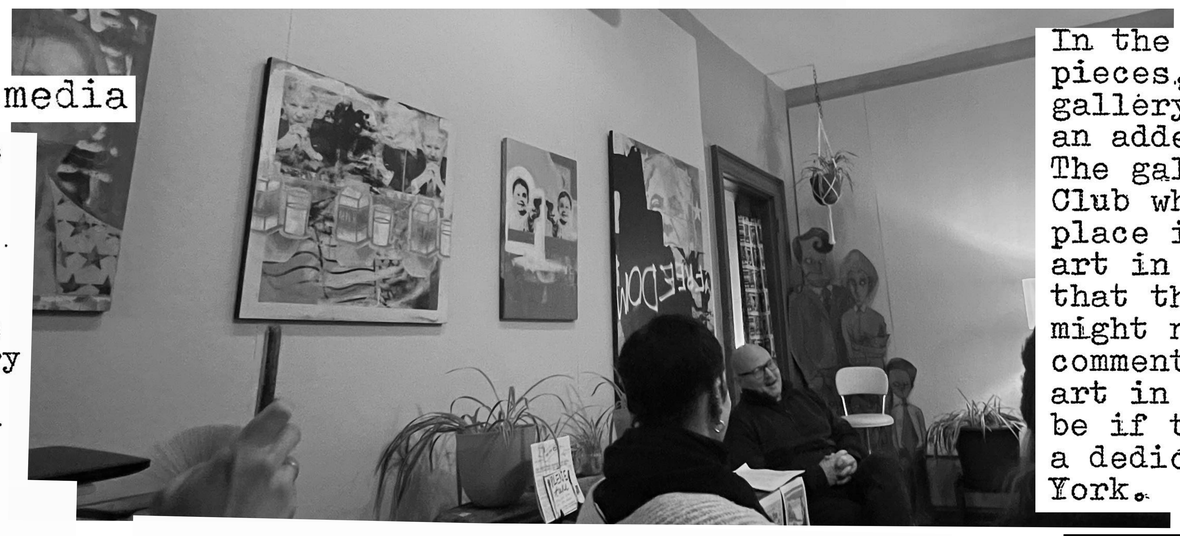
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Local Artists Face Censorship, Discuss Root Cause and Future Prevention

by: Sara Mack

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Three pieces from Michael Dugger's exhibit, "Visage", were removed from a gallery at the Out Door Country Club this past November.

The 13-piece exhibit was managed by Creative York. After the pieces were approved and hung, the country club notified the Creative York team that several of the works had been removed.

After the pieces were reportedly taken down due to controversial subject matter, Dugger elected to remove the entirety of the collection to preserve the cohesiveness of his exhibit. The pieces in question included portrayals of Donald Trump, Joe Biden, and Charlie Kirik.

Dugger's website includes the following statement: "As an artist I take great offense to censorship in any way, voice is voice, it should instigate dialogue not censorship. I chose to remove the entirety of the show, on display for you now to enjoy."

On December 5th, the evening Dugger was scheduled to conduct an artist talk about his exhibit at the country club, he instead hosted a discussion about art censorship at Tiger Rabbit Studio. Several of the works from his show, including the three controversial pieces, created a visual backdrop for the evening.

During the discussion, Dugger asked the audience to consider the "role of the gallery" when it comes to protecting artists and the community from censorship. Attendees discussed the importance of funding and monetary influence in shaping gallery priorities — "is the gallery's role to make artists more marketable?

Although financial viability is undeniably a concern for artists and gallery owners alike, there are certainly spaces created with the intention of showing art without any exchange of currency. Dugger himself shared that he has exhibited work in his own home outside of a traditional gallery setting. Throughout history, art has shaped public consciousness both within and far beyond the bounds of traditional galleries.

In the case of the stricken Visage pieces, the audience and specific gallery space in question provide an added layer to the discussion. The gallery at The Out Door Country Club where the show was slated to take place is a relatively new space for art in the area, and it is possible that the country club's usual patrons might not be as open to viewing commentary on political figures through art in this setting as someone might be if they are voluntarily entering a dedicated arts space in Downtown York.

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what's inside???

upcoming events in York this January

2A 3A

Food is a right, not a privilege.

1B

Music documented by Tiffani J Spangler

4A

Censorship

Continued from 1A

Although some locals and visitors may feel that York, PA is not the most "progressive" place, it is of our opinion at the msprint that York is home to an evolving and accepting arts and community scene —one that isn't always available in other towns of our relative size or demographic composition.

During his presentation, Dugger shared his opinion that art "must challenge the viewer". He feels that artists are responsible for encouraging viewers to be open to new perspectives. Despite these convictions, Dugger shared that he did not shape his "Visage" exhibition with the country club audience or setting in mind.

Further, Dugger shared that he does not view his pieces as "political", but rather as "commentary on where we are in society".

My personal perspective is this: Art is inherently political. Societal commentary is political commentary, and vice versa.

In Dugger's own words:
"the artist's job is to be witness to his time in history", and we are reflections of our circumstances and politics regardless of our conscious intentions. Furthermore, artists cannot expect to control how their work is interpreted by the audiences that will view it over time.

Through depicting political figures, it stands to reason that many (if not most) viewers will draw conclusions about the pieces that introduce political themes. This is not necessarily negative, but it is important for artists to consider the potential impact of their work so that they can better introduce new audiences to art in an effective way.

Making intentionalchoices around how we communicate through our work is crucial, because it encourages thoughtful dialogue and a variety of perspectives.

Finally, if artists feel unrepresented by galleries in the area, it is the artists' responsibility (and opportunity!) to collaborate with galleries and to fight for the representation that they desire and deserve. We have the power to write our own narrative regarding how our art is shared, and it is our responsibility to speak out against censorship when it occurs.

If you're interested in continuing this conversation, please write us at york@msprint.media. There willbe additional discussion around a parallel topic at Tiger Rabbit Studio on 1/21 for "What's the Point of Art Part 2" - find more details on page 3A

Food Not Bombs Facilitates Food, Winter Clothing Distribution in York City

by: Sara Mack sara@msprint.media

Established in 1980,Food Not Bombs (FNB) is an international organization that shares free, plant-based food with hungry people while protesting war and poverty. In Central Pennsylvania there are existing FNB chapters in Harrisburg and Lancaster, and, as of August 2025, there is a chapter based in York!

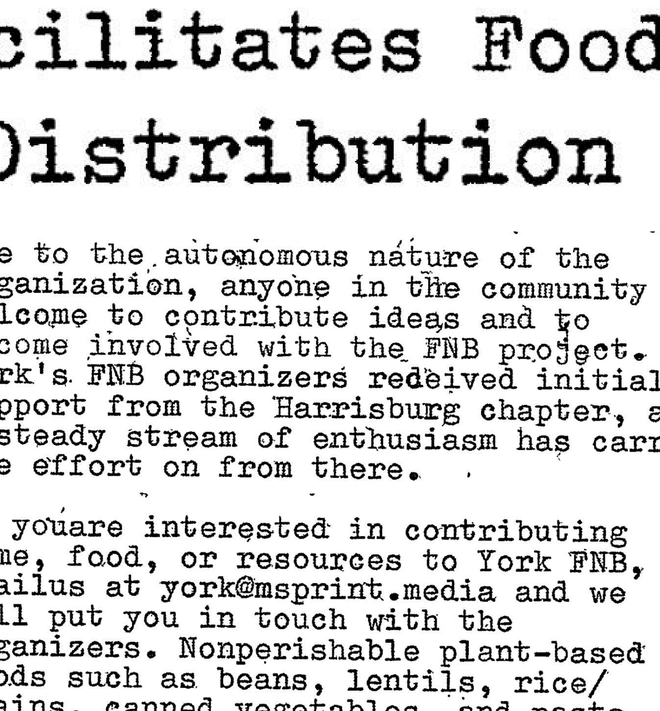
According to the Food Not Bombs website there are hundreds of active, autonomous chapters globally. Notably, FNB does not identify as a charity. A FNB press release states, "For over 30 years the movement has worked to end hunger and has supported actions to stop the globalization of the economy, restrictions to the movements of people, end exploitation and the destruction of the earthand its beings."

In York, Food Not Bombs volunteers meet every other week to cook and distribute food throughout the city. Volunteers prepare food for distribution at September House Senior Center, and distribute the food along with other donated items (including blankets and jackets in the winter) to anyone who could benefit from them.

During the winter, meals prepared and distributed have included veggie fried rice, minestrone soup, and chili. There are no requirements or barriers for recipients of FNB food or supplies.

Due to the autonomous nature of the organization, anyone in the community is welcome to contribute ideas and to become involved with the FNB project. York's FNB organizers redeived initial support from the Harrisburg chapter, and a steady stream of enthusiasm has carried the effort on from there.

If youare interested in contributing time, food, or resources to York FNB, emailus at york@msprint.media and we will put you in touch with the organizers. Nonperishable plant-based goods such as beans, lentils, rice/grains, canned vegetables, and pasta are always welcome, as well as fresh produce items and breads.



Food is a right, not a privilege.

JANUARY EVENTS

Agriculture York

Learn more about local agriculture and the organizations and people who make it happen in York! This January session will highlight York Fresh Food Farms and the Horn Farm Center.

1/6
6:30PM-7:30PM
York County History Center
121 N. Pershing Ave., York

Here for You:

Affordable Housing Advocates

The Martin Library will host local agency Affordable Housing Advocates to provide free walk-up help for the community seeking affordable housing options;

1/8
10:00AM-12:00PM
Martin Library
159 E Market St., York

Fighting for Philadelphia with Michael C. Harris

Presentation and book signing

Author and Pennsylvanian Michael C Harris presents and signs copies of his new book Fighting For Philadelphia which explores military operations prior to the continental army's arrival at Valley Forge in 1777.

Registration recommended.

1/10
10:30AM-12:30PM

DIY Incense Workshop

Herbalist Rissa Miller leads attendees through making their own all-natural incense cones. Tickets required, $25 includes all supplies.

1/11
4:30PM
Refillism
2572 Eastern Blvd., York



James and Cora's Birthday Benefit

Bent Nail Booking and FH Pappy's present a heavy show with Philadelphia death metal outfit Hematoid, Harrisburg's Defamation Act and York locals Open Flesh Wound, No Class, and Barbell. Proceeds benefit Raven Ridge Wildlife Center.
1/10
Doors @ 6:00PM, Music @ 6:30
115 S Howard St. York

Creative Writing Project 'Studied Syntax' Injects Whimsy into your Morning Coffee

by: Sara Mack sara@msprint.media

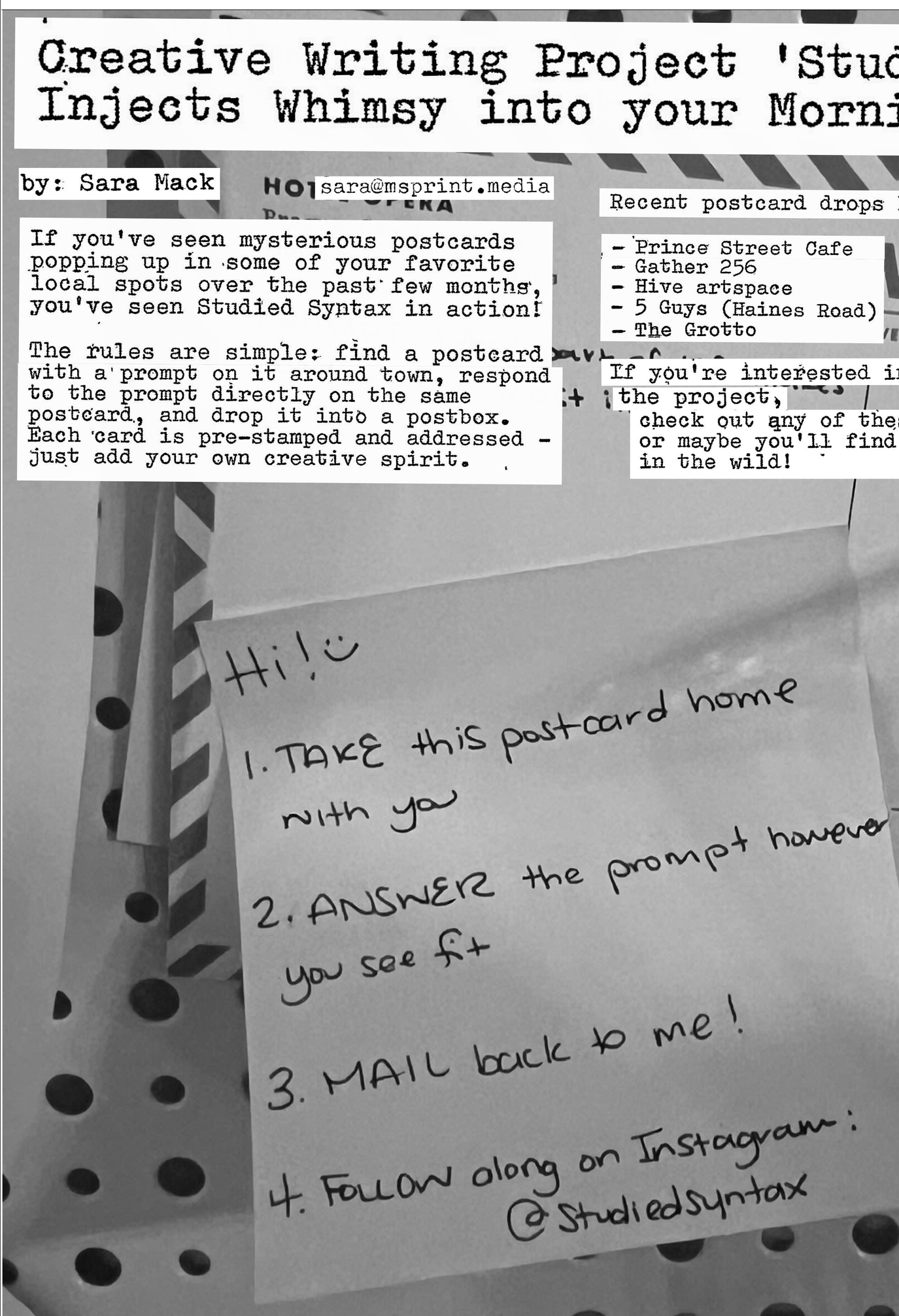
If you've seen mysterious postcards popping up in some of your favorite local spots over the past few months, you've seen Studied Syntax in action!

The rules are simple: find a postcard with a prompt on it around town, respond to the prompt directly on the same postcard, and drop it into a postbox. Each card is pre-stamped and addressed - just add your own creative spirit.

Recent postcard drops have included:

- Prince Street Cafe
- Gather 256
- Hive artspace
- 5 Guys (Haines Road)
- The Grotto
- Presidents Coffee
- Tiger Rabbit Studio
- Restless Coffee
- Bound Books
- & More!!!

If you're interested in contributing to the project, check out any of these spots -- or maybe you'll find one somewhere in the wild!



WANTED: Declarations of Love

Have you been waiting for the perfect time to tell that special someone how you *really* feel?

The York msprint is soliciting love notes and missed connections for our upcoming February installment.

Submissions will be completely anonymous - unless of course you want your identity to be revealed. Send any declarations to: york@msprint.media by January 23rd to be included in our Valentines Day special edition.

P.S. will you be our Valentine?

Music @ Tiger Rabbit Studio 12/6/25

as documented by Tiffani J Spangler



No Cheese

it's a Dad's Shirt kind of nite
'sing along, we howl at the moon'
sang in acapela style
perfect pairing with the orange
light of the nearly full moon
shadows follow the movement in the studio
a nod to Carsie Blanton -
'be good to the people' she says
its that moment when they tilt their heads back
'why'd you have to go oooooh oh!'
these three belong, makin music in the nite

Josh Johnson

his fingers skip over the fingerboard
quickly, vibrantly, dancing in a way
the room sits quiet, folks are stikl
the bass beautifully sings out
vibrations fill the studio

Olds Sleeper & Claudia Harrison

the pace quickens, she joins in
combined they are a bit mysterious
with a country twist
his lover sits in the crowd, a bit pensive
does he represent their love in a profound way?
'this house is made of matchsticks,
its all just gonna burn'
a complex sound rings out; the plucking sound of tin

CLASSIFIEDS

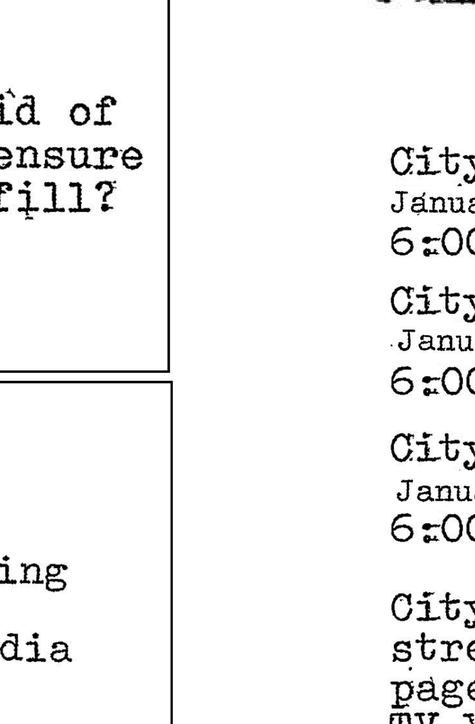
SHARING: Need help getting rid of your live Christmas tree to ensure it won't get stuck in a landfill? email sara@msprint.media

SEEKING: Unwanted XLR cables
I want to experiment withaudio cables, but can't justify cutting up new cables.
Contact matthew@msprint.media

Handcrafted, reclaimed wood tankards
FOR SALE! $80

Perfect for both hot and cold beverages, elevate your morning coffee or evening libations with this locally made tankard.

To purchase, reach out via email:
cceshultz@gmail.com



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

All meetings are open to the public and held at York City Hall:
101 S. George Street, York

City Council Meeting
January 5th
6:00PM-8:00PM

City Council Meeting
January 20th
6:00PM-8:00PM

City Council Committee Meeting
January 28th
6:00PM-8:00PM

City Council meetings can be streamed on the City's Facebook page, the White Rose Community TV Youtube Channel, Xfinity WRCT Channel 18, or online at wrct.tv

Leave your own note in our classifieds section! Send an email to: york@msprint.media

EVENTS CONT.

Tulle Queer

Hosted by The Grotto, The Hangar, Little Echo Productions, and the Rainbow Rose Center, come see the short film 'Amish Country Queer' with a Q&A panel after the screening, Tulle Queer portraiture by York Photographer Brady Pappas, and an art Market with all queer vendors.

Tickets are pay-what-you-can

1/17,
7:00PM
The Grotto
17 E Philadelphia St., York

Kitsch-Enette Grand Opening and Garter Toss

The grand opening of a new vintage and vegan cafe. There will be goodie bags for the first 20 customers, a garter toss with grand prize, giveaways, vegan samples, and a live DJ spinning records.

1/7
10:00AM-3:00PM
The Kitsche-Enette
21 South Beaver Street, York

Angry Corpses, Fright, Skullovich, Polluted Tongues, Influenza

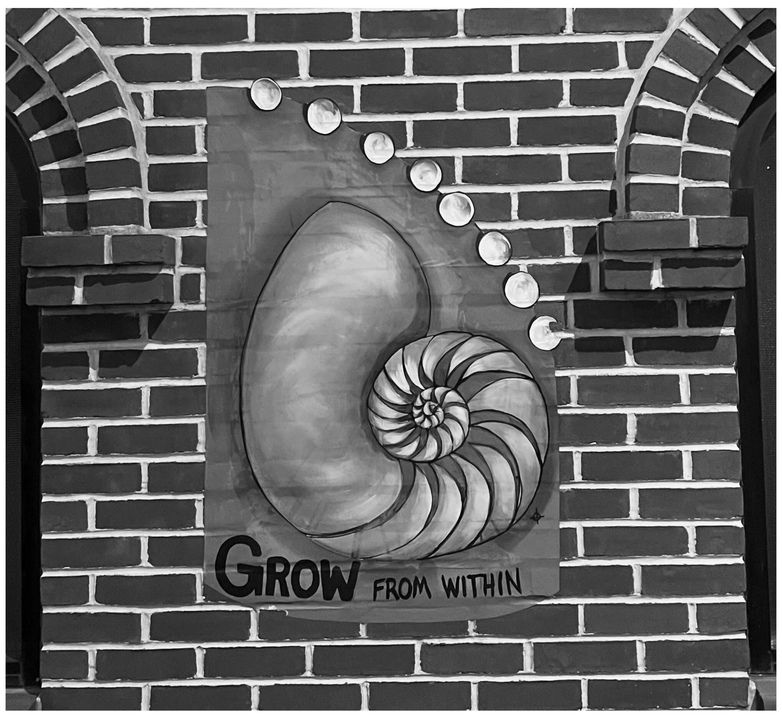
Raptor Rise Collective presents the debut show for York thrash band Influenza as they are joined by New York's Angry Corpses, Philly's Skullovich and Fright, and Baltimore's Polluted Tongues.

1/18
2:00PM
White Rose VFW Post 556
333 Eberts Lane,York

What's the Point of Art? A Philosophical Discussion: Part 2

Josh, Tiffani, and York's community philosopher, Ren, invite everyone back to Tiger Rabbit Studio to further explore the role of art in humanity. Attendees do not need to have been present for Part 1. There is an optional reading from Iris Murdoch's "The Sublime and the Good". Registration required, suggested $5-10 donation at the door.

1/21
7:00PM-9:00PM
Tiger Rabbit Studio
57 E King St., York



Winter Moons & Appalachian Spring

York Symphony led by conductor Lawrence Golan presents an evening of nature, music, and dance. They will be performing Strauss' "Emperor Waltz", Tate's Winter Moons, and Copland's Appalachian Spring Suite for 13 Instruments. Assistant Conductor Rebekah O'Brien will lead a pre-concert talk open to all ticketholders at the Strand Theater from 6:30-7:00PM.

1/17
7:30PM
Appell Center
50 N George Street,York

January Craft Circle

All ages, skill levels, and handicrafts are welcome at this craft circle. Enjoy the company of fellow crafters and complimentary tea & water. Registration is required.

1/24
1:00PM-4:00PM
Fabric of Society York
441 E Market Street
Suite 6206

Holy Hound Jazz Jam Session

An all ages jazz jam. All musicians welcome to sit in and enjoy an afternoon of music making. no cover.

1/10
1:00PM-4:00PM
Holy Hound Taproom
57 W Market St., York

Brunch of Art Opening

A new show from the Cab Gallery Ladies, Anita Williams, Joanna Trainor, Janice Moore, Wendy Hostler, Brenda Wintermyer, and a special featured artist. Their art will be on display and available for purchase. Weather permitting, artists may be featured outside creating new works.

2/1
10:00AM-3:00PM
The Handsome Cab
106 N George St., York

Grotto Writers Exhibit Call For Submissions

The Grotto invites all local artists to submit to the annual Writers Show that will open on February's First Friday! All forms of written expression are welcome including poetry, prose, essays, zines, and journals. Find the submissions form in their instagram bio @grottoyork

1/1-1/30
The Grotto
17 E Philadelphia St., York



Carbon Neutral Coffee

Every second Tuesday the Grotto hosts a semi-structured meetup for business professionals and community members alike to network around sustainability, business initiatives, and collective action.

1/13
7:45AM-9:00AM
The Grotto
17 E Philadelphia St., York

Want to see your local event featured in future editions?

email york@msprint.media to submit your own!