

# Buffalo



The logo features the word "OFFICIAL" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, arched over a large, stylized white "A" that is set against a background of blurred orange and red colors. The number "2014" is partially visible at the bottom left and right corners.

20

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26

# VISITOR GUIDE

- HOME OF THE -  
**ORIGINAL**  
BUFFALO CHICKEN WING



In 1964, Dominic Bellissimo served chicken wings prepared by his Mother, Teressa Bellissimo, at our Original Buffalo Location, launching a taste sensation that has become nationally famous.

Although many have tried to duplicate the Buffalo wing, the closely guarded secret recipe is what makes Frank & Teressa's the proclaimed "Best Wings in the World."



Enjoy a variety of choices from our Award Winning Menu:

- The Original Wing with a variety of rubs and sauce choices
- Fresh Hand Breaded Chicken Tenders & Boneless Wings
- Expanded Menu of Burgers, Salads & Wraps
- Hot Fresh Cheesy Pizza



Winner of the prestigious James Beard Award!

Take home our *World Famous Sauce!*

Available in our restaurant merchandise area and online at:

[anchorbar.com](http://anchorbar.com)



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[WWW.ANCHORBAR.COM](http://WWW.ANCHORBAR.COM)



**BUFFALO-ERIE COUNTY  
TOURISM AMBASSADOR  
PROGRAM**

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nationally recognized program.*



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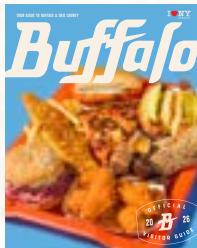
**NOW OPEN!  
Buffalo VISITOR CENTER**

Check our new Visitor Center at Canalside -  
the perfect first stop during your trip to Buffalo!

**INFORMATION • GUIDES • GIFTS**

**1 COMMERCIAL STREET, BUFFALO, NY 14202**





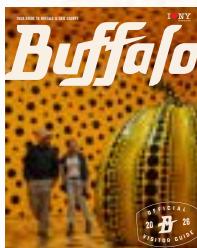
Buffalo is a full-blown flavor experience. Taste legendary local eats on the Ultimate Buffalo Food Trail!

—  
Photo by James Pici



Rolling hills. River rapids. Stunning cliffs. Get outside and breathe the fresh air on Erie County's trails!

—  
Photo by Lauren Yakiwchuk



See the new Kusama exhibit at Buffalo's world-renowned modern and contemporary art gallery, the Buffalo AKG Art Museum.

—  
Photo by Nina Grenga

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Issue 1, 2026

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# WELCOME TO BUFFALO

Dear Friends and Future Friends,

Welcome to a city that defies simple definition. Buffalo is a place where contrasts come together to create something unforgettable: industrial heritage meets fresh innovation, world-class architecture rises beside neighborhood treasures, and a casual question of a local can lead you into an unexpected adventure.

Here, masterpieces by Wright and Richardson stand just blocks from taverns serving the best wings in the world. Food trucks draw crowds comparable to award-winning restaurants. Just minutes away, waterfalls roar, lakefront beaches extend an invitation, and towering grain elevators cast shadows over lively beer gardens.

Buffalo has been my home for twelve years, after living in places from coast to coast, big cities, iconic landscapes, college towns, and historic villages. What makes Buffalo remarkable is that it blends all those qualities into one. We have the cultural richness of a major city, the natural beauty of a bucket-list destination, the energy of a university town, and the authenticity of a tight-knit community.

But what makes Buffalo truly stand out is its people. We're a community that shows up for each other and for visitors alike. Ask for directions, and you won't just be pointed down the street—you might find yourself with a new walking buddy eager to share some local tips along the way.

As you turn these pages, you'll see why we say, *That's Buffalo For You*. Whether you visit for the architecture, the food, the festivals, the sports, the arts, or the outdoors, you'll discover a city that welcomes you in and stays with you long after you leave.

With excitement for your visit,

*Patrick Kaler*

Patrick Kaler  
President & CEO  
Visit Buffalo



**TEXTURE HUNT!** Check out the subtle background textures throughout this publication from many notable places around town! You'll find a note about each background, captured through charcoal rubs, near the bottom of pages with new textures.

THE BACKGROUND TEXTURE ON THIS PAGE IS FROM BUFFALO CITY HALL.

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VisitTheUSA.com



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# 26 IN '26



By Karen Fashana

Looking for a reason to visit Buffalo in 2026? How about 26 of them? This list of can't-miss experiences blends iconic sights and new happenings with only-in-Buffalo fun. Whether you're paddling a pink flamingo boat, grooving at a waterfront concert or exploring a brand-new museum, this is the year to dive in. You'll uncover rich history, world-class art, vibrant festivals, and serious flavor, plus plenty of surprises along the way. Here is your ultimate guide to Buffalo's best picks for '26.

## MIRROR MAGIC AT THE AKG

Grab a selfie inside Yayoi Kusama's dazzling Infinity Mirror Rooms at the **Buffalo AKG Art Museum**. It's a color-soaked spectacle happening through this spring that you won't want to miss.

[buffaloakg.org](http://buffaloakg.org)

1



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### BUFFALO'S WATERFRONT REIMAGINED

The \$200 million **Ralph Wilson Park** will span 100 acres along Buffalo's Lake Erie shoreline: an inviting public space opening this summer, designed for year-round waterfront recreation.

[rwparkbuffalo.org](http://rwparkbuffalo.org)



4

### ONLY-IN-BUFFALO FINDS

Score a souvenir that's so Buffalo. Pick up one of **Oxford Pennant's** cheeky camp flags, **Thin Ice's** quirky crafts, and **Stitch Buffalo's** hand-embroidered pins—perfect for showing off your Queen City cred back home.

[oxfordpennant.com](http://oxfordpennant.com)  
[thiniceonline.com](http://thiniceonline.com)  
[stitchbuffalo.org](http://stitchbuffalo.org)

2

### BUFFALO BEATS

Get into the groove! Jam out at **Borderland Music + Arts Festival**, feel the soul at **Pappy Martin Jazz Fest**, turn up the energy at **Beau Fleuve** and catch concerts on the water at **Terminal B**.

[borderlandfestival.com](http://borderlandfestival.com)  
[pmljazz.com](http://pmljazz.com)  
[beaufleuemusicarts.com](http://beaufleuemusicarts.com)  
[outerharborlive.com](http://outerharborlive.com)

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### A CENTURY OF GRANDEUR

Buffalo is celebrating not one, not two, but three centennials in 2026: **Shea's Buffalo Theatre**, **Frank Lloyd Wright's Graycliff**, and **Our Lady of Victory Basilica**. Three iconic landmarks.

One more reason to visit this year!

[sheas.org](http://sheas.org)  
[experiencegraycliff.org](http://experiencegraycliff.org)  
[olvbasilica.org](http://olvbasilica.org)

6

### SAVOR THE FOOD SCENE

Buffalo's dining scene dazzles with award-worthy excellence and local favorites. Taste James Beard semifinalist **Southern Junction's** Indian/Texas-fusion BBQ, savor curated wine pairings at **Waxlight Bar à Vin**, enjoy a chocolate croissant at **Butter Block** bakery or partake in flavorful dishes from around the world at **the West Side Bazaar**.

[southernjunction716.com](http://southernjunction716.com)  
[waxlightbaravin.com](http://waxlightbaravin.com)  
[butterblockshop.com](http://butterblockshop.com)  
[westsidebazaar.com](http://westsidebazaar.com)



## SILO CITY RISING

Once used for the storage of flour and grain, **Silo City** has been reimagined as a cultural hub for artists, performers and curious travelers. Discover our century-old grain elevators as part of an **Explore Buffalo** walking tour or aboard a **Buffalo River History Tour** boat ride. Don't forget to save room for a beer or meal at duende.

[silo.city](http://silo.city)

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## DEBUT OF A CULTURAL GEM

The new **Hispanic Heritage Cultural Institute** will promote awareness and appreciation of the contributions made by the Hispanic community in Western New York. Located in the heart of Buffalo's Hispanic Heritage District, the institute will serve as a dynamic hub for artistic and cultural programming.

[hispanicheritagegwny.org](http://hispanicheritagegwny.org)

## MUSICALS ON MAIN

Experience **MusicalFare's** Broadway-style productions at its new home at **Shea's 710**, an intimate theater experience with a spacious new lounge and patio for the ultimate night out.

[musicalfare.com](http://musicalfare.com)  
[sheas.org](http://sheas.org)



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## 10 THE SCIENCE OF FUN

Roar, explore, and so much more! From wild creatures at the **Buffalo Zoo** to brain-boosting experiments at the **Buffalo Museum of Science**, Buffalo's packed with memory-making moments.

[buffalozoo.org](http://buffalozoo.org)  
[sciencebuff.org](http://sciencebuff.org)



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## REEL NOSTALGIA

Catch a flick and some vintage charm at one of Buffalo's classic theaters—North Buffalo's crown jewel, the **North Park Theatre**, East Aurora's historic **Aurora Theatre** or the 100-year old **Palace Theatre** in Hamburg.

[northparktheatre.org](http://northparktheatre.org)  
[auroratheatre.com](http://auroratheatre.com)  
[hamburgpalace.com](http://hamburgpalace.com)





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## 125 YEARS OF PIERCE-ARROW

Honor 125 years of Pierce-Arrow, the luxury car brand born in Buffalo, by exploring the **Buffalo Transportation Museum's** collection of classic vehicles and rich automotive stories.

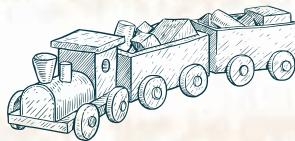
[pierce-arrow.com](http://pierce-arrow.com)

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## DRIVE THROUGH HISTORY

Take a scenic drive through Buffalo's backyard and uncover quirky, hands-on history: tour a 19th-century village at **Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village**, buzz through the **Kazoo Factory**, and dig fossils at **Penn Dixie!**

[bnhv.org](http://bnhv.org)  
[edenkazoo.com](http://edenkazoo.com)  
[penndixie.org](http://penndixie.org)



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## VIDLER'S VINTAGE VIBES

This 3rd generation family-owned business is considered America's largest five-and-dime.

For the last 96 years, customers have been exploring the endless aisles of knick knacks and quirky finds in the charming village of East Aurora.

[vidlers5and10.com](http://vidlers5and10.com)

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## CAFÉ IN THE CANOPY

Nestled south of Buffalo, the **Blueberry Treehouse Farm** awaits – a spring-through-fall café in the trees with live music, local beer and blueberry-themed snacks, a forested playground, and thousands of blueberry bushes.

[blueberrytreehousefarm.com](http://blueberrytreehousefarm.com)



Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens

Photo by: Sharon Cantillon

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## CITY IN BLOOM

Soak up the color and creativity of Buffalo's garden scene! Wander the **Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens**, stroll **Garden Walk Buffalo**, shop the **Garden Art Sale**, and explore **Open Gardens** and community garden walks all summer long.

[buffalogardens.com](http://buffalogardens.com)  
[gardenwalkbuffalo.com](http://gardenwalkbuffalo.com)  
[gardensbuffaloniagara.com](http://gardensbuffaloniagara.com)

Nash House Museum



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**TAKE A TOUR**

See Buffalo from every angle—sky-high at **City Hall** (free!), street-level on **Explore Buffalo's** Masters of American Architecture tour, or floating by on a **Miss Buffalo** river cruise. History, views, and photo ops included.

[explorebuffalo.org](http://explorebuffalo.org)  
[buffaloharborcruises.com](http://buffaloharborcruises.com)



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City Hall

**EXPLORE BUFFALO'S  
AFRICAN  
AMERICAN  
HERITAGE  
CORRIDOR**

Step into the heart of Buffalo's African American history along Michigan Avenue. Explore the soon-to-open museum at **WUFO Radio**, Buffalo's first African American radio station, then visit the historic **Nash House** to experience the civil rights stories that shaped a community. See page 22 for more on the **Colored Musicians Club & Museum** and page 40 for more on the **Michigan Street Baptist Church**.

[thecoloredmusiciansclub.com](http://thecoloredmusiciansclub.com)  
[michiganstreetbuffalo.org](http://michiganstreetbuffalo.org)  
[michiganstreetbuffalo.org/nash-house](http://michiganstreetbuffalo.org/nash-house)  
[power965radio.com](http://power965radio.com)



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**CHEERS  
TO BEERS**

Local breweries and distilleries have turned former industrial neighborhoods and once overlooked locales into revitalized hotspots like **Britesmith Brewing**, **Resurgence Brewing** and **Big Ditch**. Oh, and we hear that wings go **PERFECT** with beer.

[britesmithbrewing.com](http://britesmithbrewing.com)  
[resurgencebrewing.com](http://resurgencebrewing.com)  
[bigditchbrewing.com](http://bigditchbrewing.com)

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**SOAKED IN  
WONDER**

If you're making a bucket list, check it twice to ensure a visit to Niagara Falls is on it. No trip to the falls is complete without experiencing the Hurricane Deck at the **Cave of the Winds**. While you ring out your shirt, take a couple wet, squishy steps to the trolley and ride over to the **Maid of the Mist**. The Maid—one of the oldest attractions in North America—has thrilled millions of guests since 1846.

[niagarafallsstatepark.com](http://niagarafallsstatepark.com)  
[maidofthemist.com](http://maidofthemist.com)



## RIDE AN ICE BUMPER CAR

Hop on an ice bumper car and zigzag your way across the **Ice at Canalside**, where winter becomes a full-contact sport with family and friends.

[buffalowaterfront.com](http://buffalowaterfront.com)

Photo by Buffalo Waterfront

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## COFFEE CULTURE

Buffalo is abuzz with a percolating coffee scene!

Pick up a pound of **Unapologetic Coffee's** signature roast, sip the comforting warmth of Yemeni coffee at **Raha Coffee House** and enjoy a latte inside a former funeral home at **Undergrounds Coffee**.

[unapologeticcoffee.us](http://unapologeticcoffee.us)  
[rahacoffeehouse.com](http://rahacoffeehouse.com)  
[undergroundscoffeebuffalo.com](http://undergroundscoffeebuffalo.com)

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## THE BARD'S SUMMER STAGE

Buffalo has celebrated the Bard every summer for 51 years. The hill at **Shakespeare in Delaware Park** forms a natural setting for the free professional productions. (Tuesdays through Sundays at 7:30 pm). The 2026 season will feature *Pericles, Prince of Tyre* (June 18 – July 12) and *The Taming of the Shrew* (July 23 – Aug. 16).

[shakespeareindelawarepark.org](http://shakespeareindelawarepark.org)

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## SLEEP IN STYLE

Buffalo's history meets hospitality in standout stays like **The Richardson**

**Hotel, Mansion on Delaware, and InnBuffalo** — boutique hotels where stunning architecture and local character create a uniquely Buffalo overnight experience.

[richardsonhotel-buffalo.com](http://richardsonhotel-buffalo.com)  
[mansionondelaware.com](http://mansionondelaware.com)  
[innbuffalo.com](http://innbuffalo.com)



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## ENJOY FOUR SEASONS OF PRO SPORTS

No offseason here. Buffalo's sports scene brings the energy year-round. Watch NFL MVP Josh Allen take the field this fall in the **Bills**' new state-of-the-art stadium (read more on page 58), catch a **Sabres** or **Bisons** game and soak in some championship-caliber

lacrosse action with the **Buffalo Bandits**.

[buffalobills.com](http://buffalobills.com)  
[buffalosabres.com](http://buffalosabres.com)  
[buffalobisons.com](http://buffalobisons.com)  
[buffalobandits.com](http://buffalobandits.com)

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## PINK PEDAL CLUB

Glide across Buffalo's Hoyt Lake in a bright pink **Floatmingo** paddle boat! The floating flock can be rented every day in the summer from noon – 7pm.

[buffalomaritimecenter.org](http://buffalomaritimecenter.org)





*Wildlife  
is calling you  
Come say hello*



**Book your animal  
adventure NOW!**



**Visit [buffalozoo.org](http://buffalozoo.org)**

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Western New  
York's Premier  
Entertainment  
Destinations!

# DISCOVER SOMETHING UNFORGETTABLE



SENECA  
NIAGARA  
RESORT & CASINO



SENECA  
BUFFALO CREEK  
CASINO



## Seneca Niagara Resort & Casino

- Relax with over 600 AAA Four Diamond rated guestrooms
- Chase jackpots at over 2,000 slots & table games.
- Refuel with 9 unique dining options from relaxed to refined.
- Rejuvenate with indulging treatments at our luxurious spa & salon.
- Escape to a show starring world-class artists and comedians.
- Cut loose in Niagara's biggest nightclub featuring live entertainment.
- Wager in real time with the area's only in-person sportsbook.
- Reap in the benefits with our Social Club membership.
- Seneca Niagara – one destination with endless possibilities!

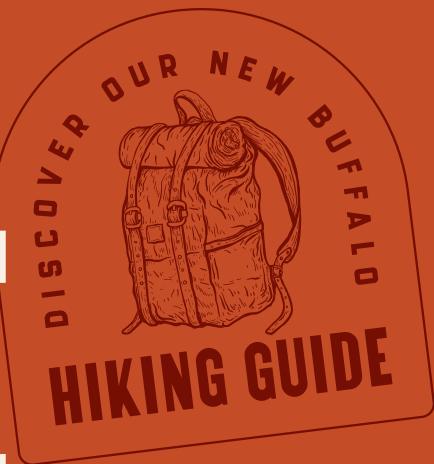
## Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino

- Downtown energy meets gaming thrills.
- Play, dine, and unwind steps from KeyBank Center, Canalside & more.
- Take in thrilling table games and slots, skyline views, and Buffalo's warmhearted spirit
- Embrace your new go-to spot, before the game, after a concert, or any night out.
- Wager in real time with the area's only in-person sportsbook.
- When you're at Seneca Buffalo Creek, you're always at the center of the action!

SCAN TO VIEW VIDEO AND DISCOVER MORE.



# GET OUTSIDE



On trails across Western New York, a hiker's paradise awaits with soaring gorges, raging rapids, rushing waterfalls, towering forests, and even an eternal flame. Ontario bloggers Lauren Yakiwchuk and Justin Ceksters, authors of OntarioHiking.com, recently explored these trails to create the new Buffalo Hiking Guide on our website. The digital guide gives you more ideas than ever before to experience these natural wonders through stunning new videos and detailed information about 10 local hiking trails. Discover some of their favorite hiking experiences here, then scan the QR code to browse the entire guide and start planning your next great outdoor adventure.

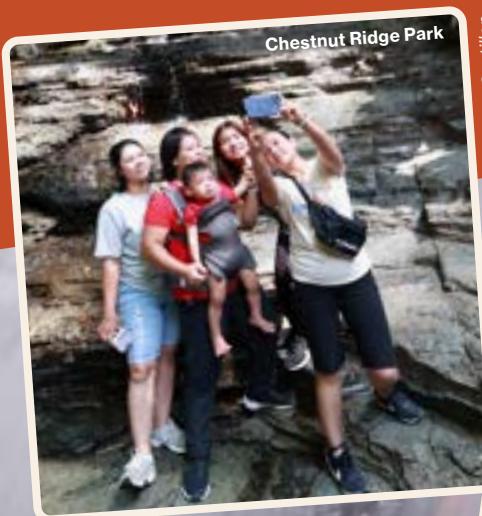


Photo by Drew Brown



Photo by Lauren Yakiwchuk



# ETERNAL FLAME FALLS TRAIL AT CHESTNUT RIDGE COUNTY PARK

“Eternal Flame Falls is unlike any waterfall you’ll ever encounter. Not only does it plunge 30 feet down into the gorge, but there’s an everlasting flame burning steadily behind the veil of water. It’s a rare natural phenomenon that you need to see for yourself.”

**Chestnut Ridge Road  
Orchard Park**

## ERIE COUNTY FOREST

“Hoping to escape into nature without the crowds? Just a short drive from Buffalo, Erie County Forest is an underrated gem. The forest spans several thousand acres with expansive multi-use trails, secluded wildlife habitats, and even a working maple syrup operation.”

11323 County Road 409  
East Concord



Photo by Lauren Yakiwchuk



## VALENTINE FLATS TRAIL AT ZOAR VALLEY

“Amassing a whopping 3000 acres, Zoar Valley is also home to 600 acres of old growth forest and dramatic 500 foot gorges. Zoar offers a one-of-a-kind experience where raw natural beauty and rugged terrain unite for an unforgettable day outdoors.”

10112 Valentine Flats Road  
Gowanda



## EIGHTEEN MILE CREEK COUNTY PARK

"This trail offers numerous adventures both above and below its 60-foot gorge. It's the best of both worlds: a walk through the forest and a walk along the creek.

Whether you're standing up close or high above, it's a view that leaves a lasting impression."

2675 South Creek Road  
Hamburg

## WHIRLPOOL STATE PARK

"Did you know that some of the fastest rapids in North America are on display in Western New York? Whirlpool State Park not only has some of the best views of the Niagara River, but you can experience the rushing waters of class six rapids from multiple vantage points."

Niagara Scenic Parkway  
Niagara Falls



CHECK OUT THE ENTIRE  
HIKING GUIDE HERE



# HOW TO WINTER IN BUFFALO

By Meagan Walker Doxtad



When temps dip, the Queen City transforms into a wintry wonderland and a spirit of adventure takes hold. The trick to making the most of this oft overlooked time of year? Know where to go, and balance your itinerary with a mix of action in the elements and cozy reprieves. Ready to lean into this signature season? Here's where to begin.





## THAWING OUT

When an unseasonably warm day presents itself, take a lap around the 1.8-mile Meadow Loop at **Delaware Park** (say hi to the bison at The Buffalo Zoo, who are visible from the path!), see the city from a new angle from **Buffalo City Hall's Observation Deck**, or grab drinks on the heated patio at **The Place** in the city's Elmwood Village.

[bfloparks.org](http://bfloparks.org) • [buffalony.gov](http://buffalony.gov)  
[theplacebuffalo.com](http://theplacebuffalo.com)



## JUST RIGHT

For those perfect winter days around the freezing mark, pedal, stride, and glide in the sun at the **Ice at Canalside**, where ice bumper cars and skates await. Or after a fresh snowfall, head to **Chestnut Ridge County Park** and go whoosh on the legendary toboggan chutes. Season-made special events abound, like **42 North's Brewski** — a mashup of outdoor sports and beer tastings set in East Aurora's scenic Knox Farm State Park.

[buffalowaterfront.com](http://buffalowaterfront.com) • [erie.gov/parks](http://erie.gov/parks)  
[42northbrewing.com](http://42northbrewing.com)



## BRRRRR

During our coldest days, Niagara Falls' **Cave of the Winds** is all about ice, ice, baby. As the Falls' mist settles and freezes, stunning ice formations dot the landscape, and with lighter crowds, it's a super peaceful way to experience this natural wonder. At Evangola State Park, **ice volcanoes** build and beckon. Formed by cold temps, gusty winds, and a partially frozen Lake Erie, these natural phenomena — which can reach up to 20 feet tall — "erupt" with a powerful spray.

[niagarafallsstatepark.com](http://niagarafallsstatepark.com)  
[parks.ny.gov/parks/evangola](http://parks.ny.gov/parks/evangola)



# YOU SHOULD HEAR OUR SURROUND SOUND

Here's a refreshing idea, step away from the screens and reconnect with nature at Niagara Falls State Park. It's a getaway that's good for your well-being and one you'll always be glad you took.

Plan your Niagara Falls getaway today.



NIAGARA FALLS  
STATE PARK

[NiagaraFallsStatePark.com](http://NiagaraFallsStatePark.com)

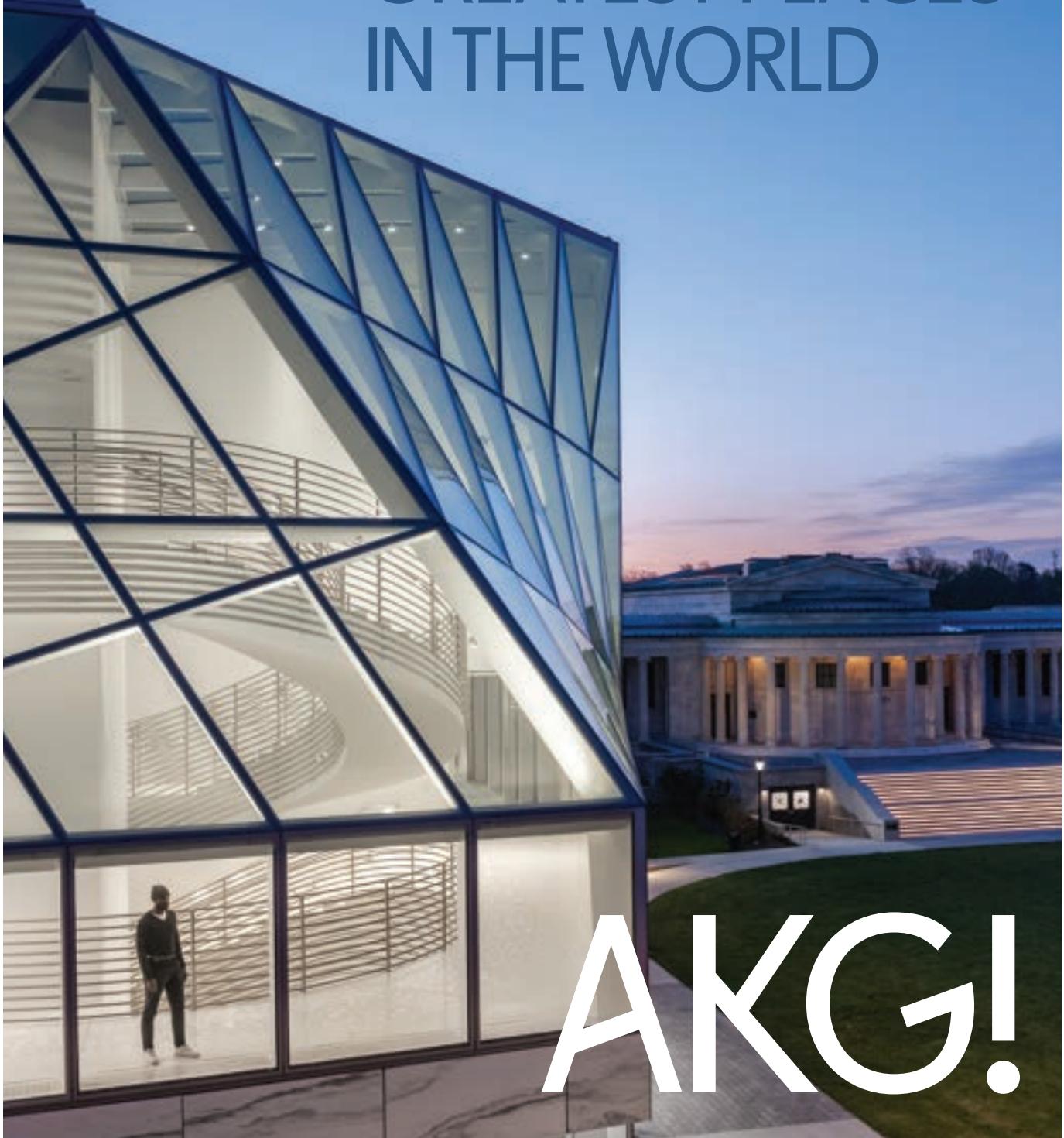
# BUFFALO AKG ART MUSEUM

Photo: Jason O'Neal

*One of TIME Magazine's 2024*

**GREATEST PLACES  
IN THE WORLD**

# AKG!



# INSIDE / OUT

Photo by Sharon Cantillon

ART AROUND EVERY CORNER



By Michelle Kearns

Buffalo is a city with art at its heart. Masterpieces new and old await discovery from within gallery walls and on the outside – on lawns, sidewalks, the waterfront and as murals. Here are several stops to consider for getting to the highlights, inside and out, and a secret: in Buffalo, there is art at every turn.

FOR A DEEPER  
LOOK AT BUFFALO  
ART. SCAN HERE



## BUFFALO AKG ART MUSEUM

See internationally acclaimed works by Picasso and Warhol and new visiting exhibitions within this recently expanded center for modern and contemporary art.

[buffaloakg.org](http://buffaloakg.org)



# INSIDE



## CEPA GALLERY

From its home in the Market Arcade Complex, an airy 1892 precursor to modern-age malls, this gallery showcases photography with local themes and hosts classes.

[cepagallery.org](http://cepagallery.org)

Photo by Katie Addo

## STITCH BUFFALO

A new mural, by local artist Saira Siddiqui, at this stitching and embroidery workshop, is a vibrant take on rippling fabric transforming into sewn objets d'art.

[stitchbuffalo.org](http://stitchbuffalo.org)

Photo by Stephen Gabris



## THE SHIRLEY CHISHOLM STATUE

By artist Julia Bottoms, it can be found outside Forest Lawn Cemetery's Birchwood Mausoleum, the resting place of the first Black woman elected to Congress.

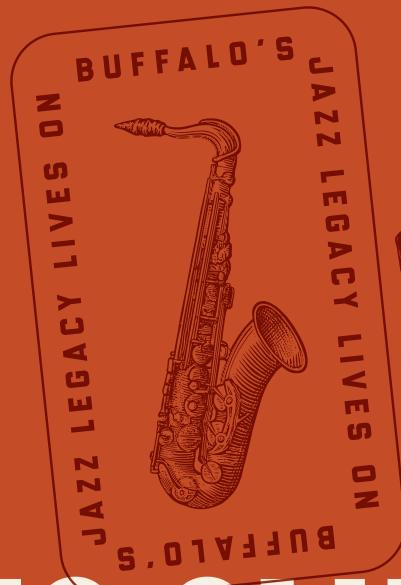
[forest-lawn.com](http://forest-lawn.com)



# OUT



# A NEW DAY FOR THE HISTORIC **COLORED MUSICIANS CLUB**



By Michelle Kearns



**A black and white snapshot of some of America's most famous musicians hanging out in Buffalo's Colored Musicians Club reveals why the newly renovated venue remains such a captivating place. You can step into the same room and take a seat at the bar where jazz innovators like Miles Davis gathered to drink, eat, make music and listen.**

The early 1950s photo shows Davis peering over John Coltrane's shoulder. Dizzy Gillespie is at the piano. A local musician Elvin Shepherd watches, trumpet in hand. His friend Wilbur Trammel plays the saxophone. A small crowd listens in.

"What was great about it back then was the fact that, regardless of your musical ability, all were welcome... The club was a place that inspired young people to play better," said George Scott, president of the Colored Musicians Club and Jazz Museum, and a big bandleader who went to the club as a boy and learned to play the saxophone from working musicians.

Photo by Eric Frick



Photo by Onion Studio



Black musicians started the club a couple of years after they founded, in 1917, a Black union after the white union refused to integrate. In 1934, Local 533 bought the brick building at 145 Broadway, a former boot shop, billiards parlor and cigar stand.

The union held meetings on the first floor, where there is now a museum with interactive exhibits. Listen to Buffalo musicians, like Dodo Greene, a jazz singer and the first vocalist signed to an exclusive contract with Blue Note Records. Learn about the heydays of the 1940s and '50s when stars like Billie Holiday, Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong and Nat "King" Cole came to the club to unwind after performing at segregated night spots where they weren't allowed to walk through the front door.

The old club has a new elevator, a stage where musicians play and the original wood bar where people long ago ordered 25-cent "trotters": a plate with pork, a pig's foot, beans and a bottle of beer. "It's the same place," said Scott. "Same atmosphere. It's intimate. It's just a great feeling, relaxing and enjoying the same jazz groove. Sort of like what it was like back in the day."

[thecoloredmusiciansclub.com](http://thecoloredmusiciansclub.com)



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Many thanks to The Bill & Jean Irr Family Foundation  
to make it possible to add the 1911 Pierce and more  
to the museum collection.



## A CENTURY OF WONDER

*Celebrating 100 Years!*

Since 1926, Shea's Buffalo Theatre, originally known as "The Wonder Theatre," has been the heartbeat of Buffalo's cultural scene, inspiring generations through arts education, exceptional performances, and unforgettable shared experiences.

Today, as a three-theatre campus, Shea's Performing Arts Center remains a destination where culture and community converge. From national Broadway tours and locally produced theatre to laugh-out-loud comedy and award-winning musicians, Shea's continues to bring world-class entertainment to Western New York.

As we celebrate our centennial, we invite you to join us and experience the wonder.

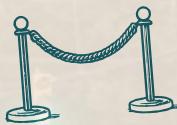


Photo by Tom Burns

Visit [sheas.org](http://sheas.org) for more information.

# CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF

EVER  
NIGHT  
HERE  
DESERVES  
AN  
**ENCORE**



By Ed Healy

**It was christened Buffalo's "Wonder Theatre" by its founder Michael Shea – "it will hush you, awe you, stagger you" proclaimed an ad for the theater's opening in January 1926. It was no idle boast. Shea's Buffalo, as it's now known, was a remarkable achievement – a 4,000-seat movie palace built in a jaw-dropping Spanish Baroque Revival style with an interior designed by the legendary Tiffany & Co. It was a lavish, luxurious theater constructed at the height of a time when movies mesmerized the public. Shea, an ambitious, striving impresario, aspired to greatness both for himself and his hometown. His theater in the heart of Buffalo's bustling downtown was dramatic evidence of how far both the man and the city had come.**

But the wonder wouldn't last. The Great Depression took its toll on the movie business, as did the advent of television in the 1950s. Changing tastes in popular entertainment left the massive movie theaters of the Twenties relics of a bygone era. Shea's Buffalo continued a downward spiral until it finally closed in 1975. Looking back on the dark days when the building was faced with demolition, it's a wonder it even survived.

But thanks to a dedicated group of preservationists, theater lovers and hands-on volunteers, Shea's Buffalo has been returned to its original grandeur. Since the start of restoration efforts in the '90s, no part of this landmark has been untouched, including the addition of an expanded stage house built to accommodate the largest touring Broadway shows.

Today, Shea's Buffalo is the anchor of a reinvigorated Theatre & Entertainment District, a hub for a neighborhood filled with theaters, restaurants, music venues, bars and clubs. As it celebrates its 100th anniversary, the Wonder Theatre is once again a wonder to behold.

[sheas.org](http://sheas.org)

SEE WHAT'S  
HAPPENING IN  
THE DISTRICT



# WHERE TO GO BEFORE AND AFTER THE SHOW

## BEFORE

### BUFFALO CHOPHOUSE

A special occasion restaurant where the steaks are thick, the martinis dry and the valet parking is free. [buffalochophouse.com](http://buffalochophouse.com)

### STREETLIGHT BRASSERIE

A stylish and sophisticated place that's perfect for a light dinner and a glass of wine before a show. [streetlightbrasserie.com](http://streetlightbrasserie.com)

### INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

For ease and convenience — and food from around the world — this sparkling new food hall can't be beat.

[internationalhousebuffalo.com](http://internationalhousebuffalo.com)



## AFTER

### 42 NORTH @ THE FLATS

Looking for a cold one to quench your thirst after a show? This funky but chic craft brewery is just the place.

[42nintheflats.com](http://42nintheflats.com)

### BANSHEE IRISH PUB

It's a bit of Dublin in downtown Buffalo with a bar imported from Ireland, Celtic music, soccer on the TV and Guinness on tap.

[bansheeirishpub.com](http://bansheeirishpub.com)

### TUDOR LOUNGE

A dive bar that gives dive bars a good name with drink specials and live music every night of the week.

[facebook.com/tudorrocks](http://facebook.com/tudorrocks)



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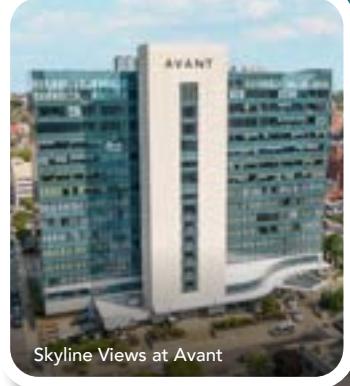


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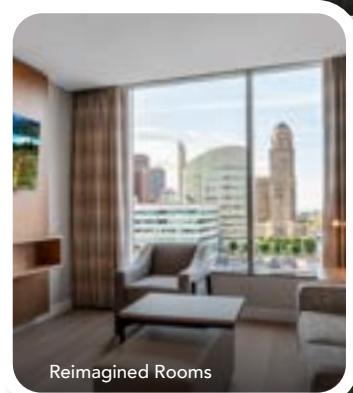
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Skyline Views at Avant



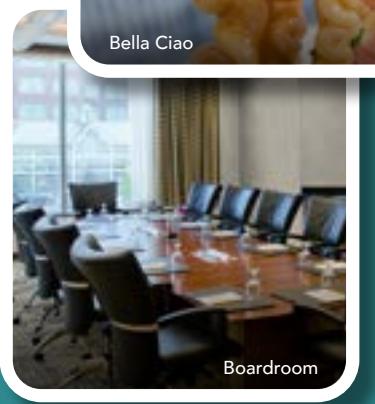
Encore Room



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MUSEUM

Celebrating the lives, careers,  
and legacies of the  
"First Couple of Comedy"



"I Love Lucy"  
75th Anniversary  
in 2026



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Visit the National Comedy Center — an immersive experience filled with fun and laughter for the entire family. It's an interactive playground showcasing comedy's funniest moments and greatest legends — a true Hall of Fame for comedy. Put yourself in classic TV and movie scenes, perform Comedy Karaoke, challenge a friend to a Laugh Battle, explore our Comedy Continuum video wall and much more.

Plus be sure to explore the Lucy Desi Museum, just three blocks away, where we celebrate the legacies and remarkable influence of Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Desilu Studios and the greatest TV comedy of all time, *I Love Lucy*. Laugh all day with us in Jamestown — Comedy's hometown.



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Open Thursday - Monday, 10 am to 5 pm. Open Tuesday, Memorial Day through Labor Day, 10 am to 5 pm

# THE ULTIMATE BUFFALO FOOD TRAIL

By Brian Hayden

**Get ready to feast your way through one of America's great eating cities. Buffalo has always been a full-blown flavor experience, filled with mouthwatering foods either created or perfected here. Our new Ultimate Buffalo Food Trail provides a roadmap to experiencing our city's most defining flavors and lesser-known specialties all in one delicious journey. Here's just a taste of what you'll find along the way.**

VIEW THE ENTIRE  
TRAIL AND  
START PLANNING  
YOUR FOODIE  
ADVENTURE HERE



## 1 CHARCOAL-BROILED HOT DOGS

Order these Buffalo-made Sahlen's hot dogs extra-charred and with the works—including homemade hot relish—at **Ted's**, a mainstay here since 1927.

[tedshotdogs.com](http://tedshotdogs.com)

## 2 CHICKEN FINGER SUBS

This made-in-Buffalo sandwich featuring chicken fingers tossed in hot sauce and often covered in blue cheese (#neverranch) has become a fixture at eateries like **Jim's SteakOut**.

[jimsteakout.com](http://jimsteakout.com)

## 3 PIZZA

Sink your teeth into a slice of Buffalo-style pizza—topped with gooey mozzarella cheese and small pepperoni that cups and chars when baked—at **Picasso's Pizza**, which has been slinging 'em for decades.

[picassospizza.net](http://picassospizza.net)

## 4 FISH FRY

Long a Lenten favorite and popular at church dinners, you can now find beer-battered haddock with all the fixins' year-round at corner taverns like **Gene McCarthy's**.

[genemccarthys.com](http://genemccarthys.com)

## 5 BEEF ON WECK

It was likely Buffalo's German immigrants who first served hand-carved roast beef on a kimmelweck roll studded with salt and caraway seeds in the late 1800s. Top yours with a dollop of sinus-clearing horseradish at **Charlie the Butcher**.

[charliethebutcher.com](http://charliethebutcher.com)

## 6 WINGS

No trip here is complete without feasting on our signature food known the world over. Your starting point is the **Anchor Bar**, which created the version that became famous more than 60 years ago.

[anchorbar.com](http://anchorbar.com)

## 7 SPONGE CANDY

Nearly every local confectioner has served this crispy treat for generations. Drop by **Watson's Chocolates**, a Western New York mainstay since 1946, for a taste of their milk, dark and orange chocolate varieties.

[watsonschocolates.com](http://watsonschocolates.com)

## 8 PEANUT STICKS

These fry cakes coated in chopped peanuts have been a staple of the **Paula's Donuts** menu for years, alongside chocolate peanut, peanut cream and peanut jelly flavors.

[paulasdonuts.com](http://paulasdonuts.com)







# A GLASS HALF FULL: COCKTAILS & MOCKTAILS, OH MY

By Theresa Donnelly



Options are everything. And from menus all around the area – city and suburb alike – it's increasingly likely you'll see the list of non-alcoholic drink options growing to match their boozy counterparts. For every mood, food, or attitude, there's a c(m)ocktail for you here.

If you're looking for a specialty cocktail that packs some buzz, our nationally recognized drink programs across the area are waiting for you to imbibe. And if the search is on for mocktail variations, our local purveyors have you covered with their ingenuity, too. No matter what fills your cup, there's a fit for you – and many, many cheers to that.

## COCKTAILS

### BROKEN GARDEN TOOLS

*Dapper Goose*

Enjoy this enigma of citrus and spice for a complex—and enviable—gin cocktail.

[dappergoose.com](http://dappergoose.com)

### THE GREEN HORNET

*Lloyd Taco Factory*

This mashup of cucumber and spicy tomatillo shrub packs a punch of flavor and whimsy.

[whereslloyd.com](http://whereslloyd.com)

### SERGEANT PEPPER

*Graylynn*

Discover the delightful complexities of green chiles and black pepper at this bold downtown destination.

[graylynn.com](http://graylynn.com)

### JAM SESSION

*Ballyhoo*

A little menu input creates a lot of happiness as you choose your flavor of jam and let them handle the rest.

[buffaloballyhoo.com](http://buffaloballyhoo.com)



## MOCKTAILS

### GHIA SUMAC CHILI SPRITZ

*Lucky Day*

From an incredible library of limitless concoctions, climb up the non-alc bar ladder with a glass of heat and effervescence.

[luckydaywhiskeybar.com](http://luckydaywhiskeybar.com)

### SNAP PEA & DILL

*Waxlight Bar a Vin*

Enjoy the fruits (and veggies) of Waxlight's award-winning drink program with a unique, refreshing taste of snap peas and herbs.

[waxlightbaravin.com](http://waxlightbaravin.com)

### MOCKARITA

*Breezy Burrito Bar*

Order your zero-proof take of this famous taqueria drink for an easy, breezy, and delicious experience.

[breezyburritobar.com](http://breezyburritobar.com)

### DISCERNING LEISURE

*Hydraulic Hearth*

Warm your bones when sipping on this cozy concoction of botanical soda, apple, grapefruit, cinnamon and ginger.

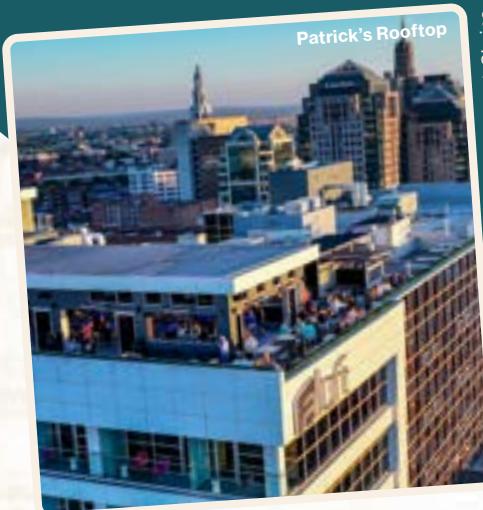
[hydraulichearth.com](http://hydraulichearth.com)



The Terrace at Delaware Park

Photo by Sharon Cantillon





# BUFFALO'S BEST PATIOS

By Theresa Donnelly

**We're built for patios in Buffalo. When the sun is out, we're destined to be out with it, ideally with a drink in hand. Our unique range of patios follows suit, from seats along the water to hideaway grottos snugged into familiar neighborhoods and lofty views from rooftops.**

Imagine this: You've just arrived in Buffalo and it's a perfect summer evening. The search is on for good food, great vibes, and not one minute more spent inside. **Charlie's Boat Yard** and **Patrick's Rooftop** serve you the scenes of a region worth celebrating—from the energy that comes from buzzing waterfront crowds to a skyline patio

perfect for watching the sun set over Lake Erie. Beyond Buffalo, **Britesmith in Williamsville** and **Orchard Park's Wayland Brewing Company** bring big open spaces, excellent hand-held foods, and easy access to the bar.



Let's say your focus is on a more intimate environment—a place for smaller tables that lend to deeper connections. Overlooking Hoyt Lake, **The Terrace at Delaware Park's** magic comes from an outside seat on the balcony—made only better with a spritz in hand and a hopeful breeze. **Quennelle** and **Dapper Goose** feature tucked away, private backyard oases that transport you out of the urban bustle and into their worlds.

Just like the heartbeat of our city, the patio list goes on. For every mood and gathering, there's a table waiting for you outside. Cheers to a season full of outdoor memories lakeside, tableside, and by the side of those you love.

[charliesboatyard.com](http://charliesboatyard.com) • [patricksr rooftop.com](http://patricksr rooftop.com)  
[britesmithbrewing.com](http://britesmithbrewing.com) • [waylandbrewing.com](http://waylandbrewing.com)  
[terracebuffalo.com](http://terracebuffalo.com) • [quennellebuffalo.com](http://quennellebuffalo.com)  
[thedappergoose.com](http://thedappergoose.com)



TOM BURNS  
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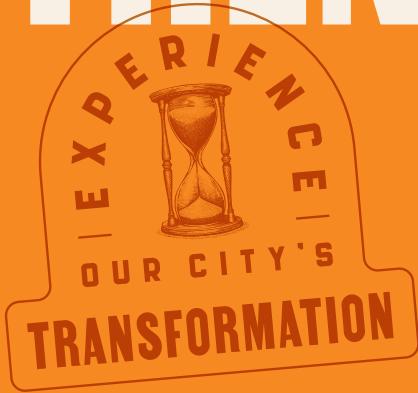


IN YOUR ERIE COUNTY PARKS  
10,000 Acres to Explore



# BUFFALO THEN AND NOW

By Brian Hayden



Welcome to a city where history feels brand new. We've spent the past several decades restoring our extraordinary collection of late 19th and early 20th century architecture into incredible spaces where you can stay, play and explore. Picture a former asylum reimagined as a boutique hotel, and waterfront grain elevators reinvented as a rock-climbing wall and zip line course. See how our landmarks have transformed in these then-and-now photos—and start planning your journey through our historically new city.

## RICHARDSON OLMSTED CAMPUS

Step inside this National Historic Landmark, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson in 1871, that was once known as the Buffalo State Asylum.

Following decades of neglect and then extensive redevelopment, the campus now hosts the Richardson Hotel, with the new Lipsey Architecture Center to follow in 2027.

[richardson-olmsted.com](http://richardson-olmsted.com)

*Photo courtesy of The Buffalo History Museum*

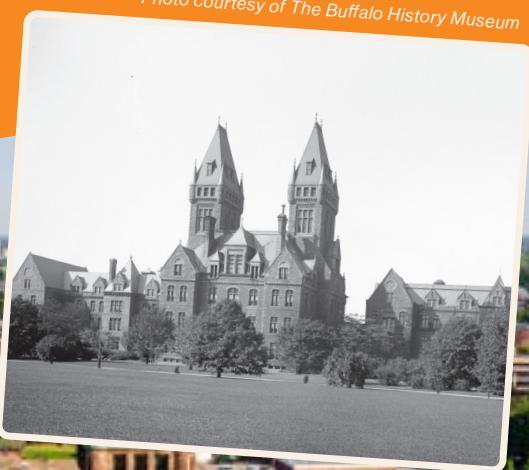




Photo courtesy of The Buffalo History Museum



Photo courtesy of Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House



## FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT'S MARTIN HOUSE

Wright considered the home he completed for Buffalo industrialist Darwin Martin in 1907 to be his "domestic symphony." Over the last 30 years, Buffalo summoned the collective will to preserve, restore and reconstruct the house and surrounding property, transforming this once-faded masterpiece into one of the city's top attractions.

[martinhouse.org](http://martinhouse.org)



## MICHIGAN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

During the 1840s, freedom seekers built this house of worship on the east end of downtown that eventually hosted luminaries like Frederick Douglass and Booker T. Washington. A community restoration effort led to the 2025 reopening of the church as a gathering space and anchor of the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor.

[michiganstreetbaptistchurch.org](http://michiganstreetbaptistchurch.org)

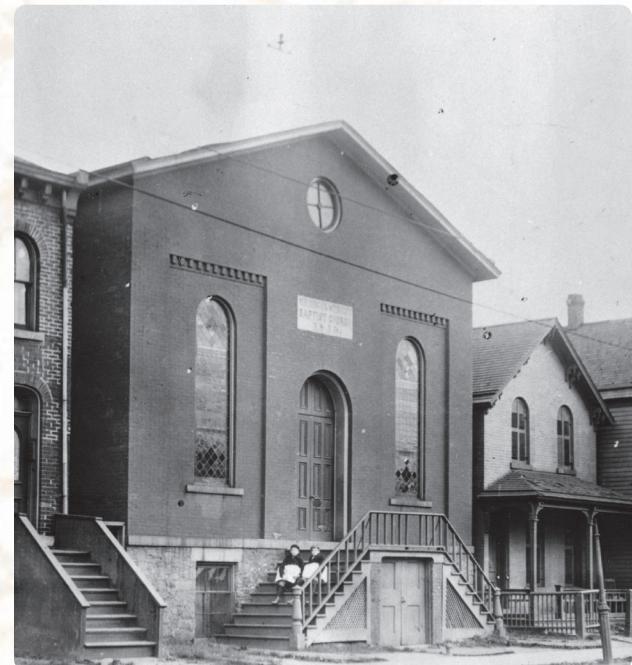


Photo courtesy of The Buffalo History Museum

# BUFFALO RIVERWORKS

Years ago, the Buffalo River bustled with lake freighters offloading grain to one of world's largest collection of concrete silos, including the Grain League Federation (GLF) complex. These days, the river bustles instead with tiki boats, kayaks, and stand-up paddleboarders, while the transformed GLF silos now house Buffalo Riverworks' zip line course, rock climbing wall and beer garden.

[buffaloriverworks.com](http://buffaloriverworks.com)



Photo courtesy of The Buffalo History Museum



Photo by Joe Cascio

# RELIVING THE PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION 125 YEARS LATER



By Brian Hayden

It was 125 years ago when the fate of our country changed right here in Buffalo. Millions gathered in our city for 1901's Pan-American Exposition, a world's fair spanning 350 acres just north of Delaware Park that celebrated America's achievements at the turn of the 20th century. Visitors strolled down promenades, marveled at beautifully designed buildings and dynamic exhibits, and enjoyed thrilling, state-of-the-art midway rides like "Trip to the Moon" and "House Upside Down." Crowds flocked to see the illuminated buildings and grounds each evening, a spectacle that helped Buffalo earn the nickname of the "City of Light."

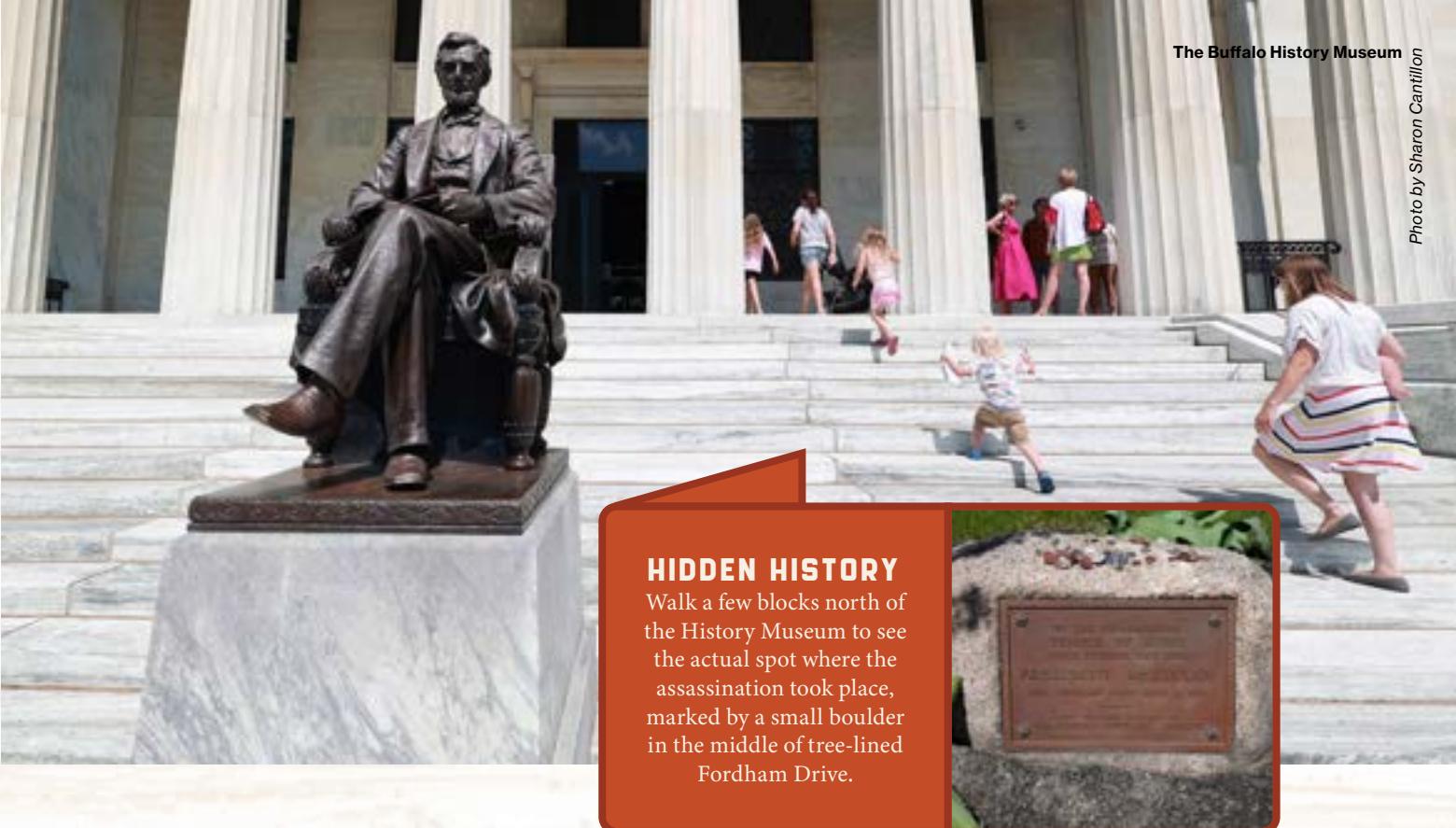
That fanfare crashed to a halt on September 6, 1901, when an assassin fatally shot President William McKinley at the exposition's Temple of Music. Vice President Theodore Roosevelt rushed to Buffalo to take the oath of office, ushering in one of the most significant American presidencies. Several weeks later, the exposition ended. Demolition crews cleared most of the exposition grounds the following winter, and a quiet neighborhood rose in its place.

But thankfully, not all was lost. You can still relive this pivotal period in American history at these attractions.

*Photo courtesy of The Buffalo History Museum*

1901 Pan-American Exposition





### HIDDEN HISTORY

Walk a few blocks north of the History Museum to see the actual spot where the assassination took place, marked by a small boulder in the middle of tree-lined Fordham Drive.



## THE BUFFALO HISTORY MUSEUM

This is a National Historic Landmark and the only remaining permanent structure from the Pan-Am. Originally constructed as the fair's New York State Building, the museum features an orientation exhibit to the exposition on its main floor, full of historic images and paintings. Head upstairs to the Continuum exhibit to see the actual gun the assassin used. Or check the museum's calendar for seasonal Pan-Am walking tours that explore the surrounding former grounds.

[buffalohistory.org](http://buffalohistory.org)



## THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

A couple miles south of the former exposition grounds is one of only a handful of places outside the nation's capital where a U.S. president took the oath of office. Meticulously preserved and restored, the TR Site recreated the library where Roosevelt was sworn in, as well as other rooms of the former Ansley Wilcox residence. Step back in time to 1901 and consider the world from President Roosevelt's perspective through a series of interactive exhibits.

[trssite.org](http://trssite.org)



Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site

# A tour of Forest Lawn is a ‘must do’ in Buffalo.

— a Tripadvisor traveler review

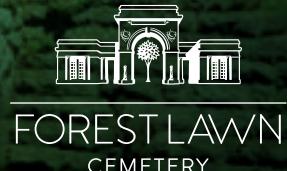
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Shasti O'Leary Soudant (b. 1967)  
*Do Not Mistake Our Softness for Weakness*, 2021

Zak Ward & the Million Dollar Question  
Emma Stanton, *Elephant Ears II*, 2025



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## Visit the Largest Inland Naval Park in the United States!

Located on the Buffalo Waterfront at Canalside, the **Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park** is a can't-miss family destination featuring U.S. Navy museum ships **USS The Sullivans DD-537**, **USS Little Rock CLG-4**, and **USS Croaker SSK-246** along with exhibits, monuments, educational programs, and more.

[buffalonavalpark.org](http://buffalonavalpark.org)



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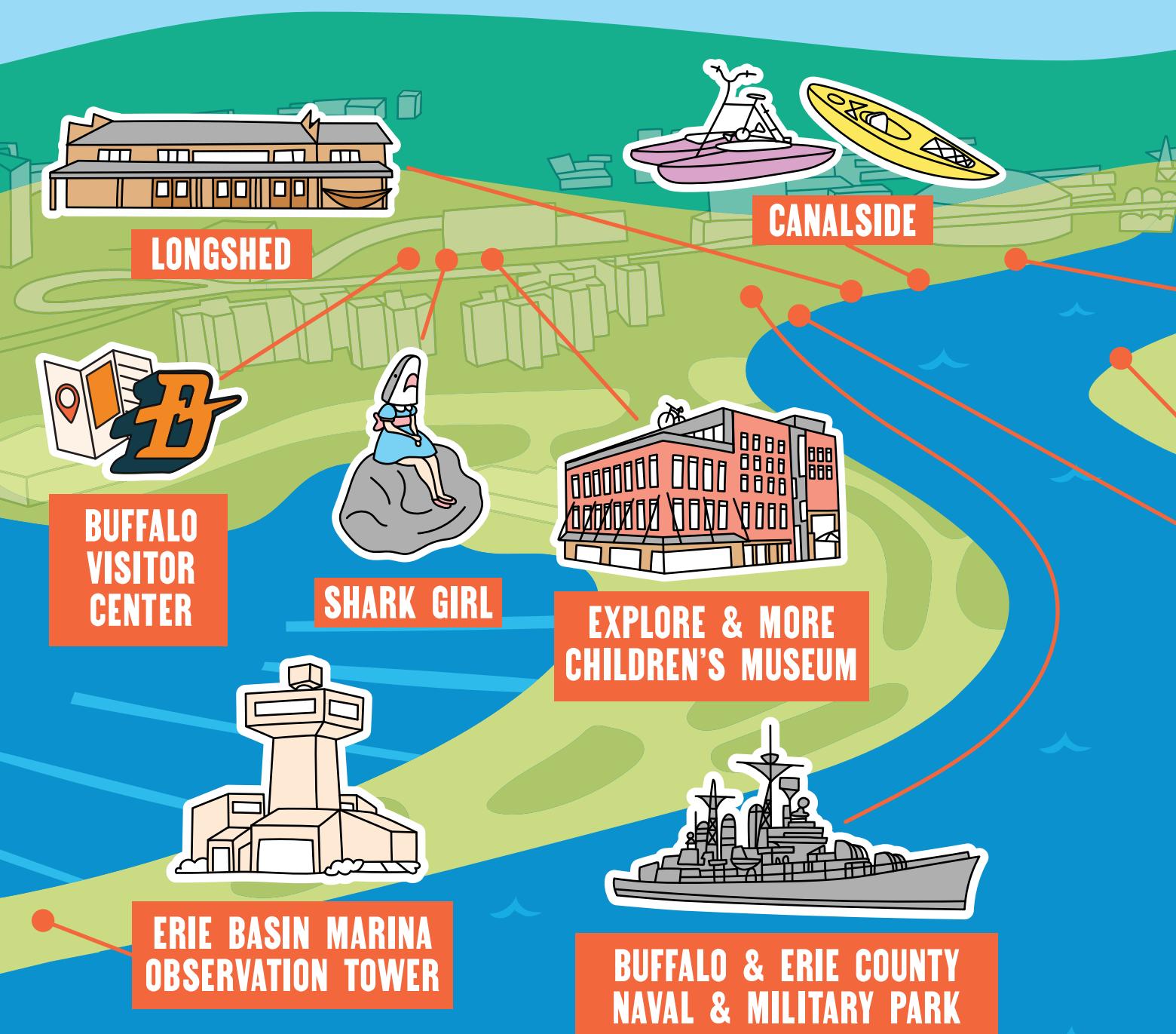
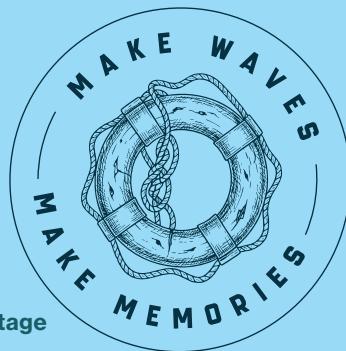
1 Naval Park Cove, Buffalo, NY 14202

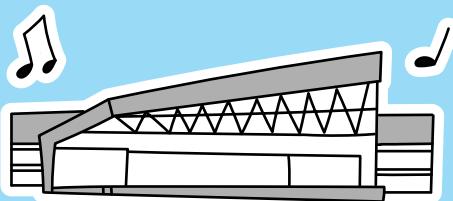
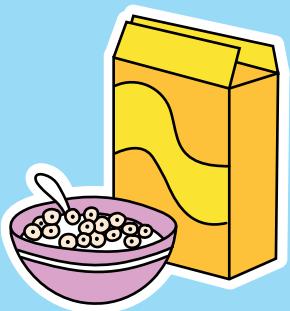
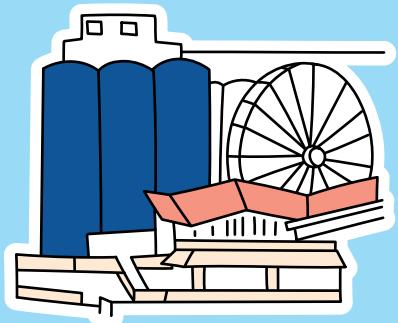


# A KID'S GUIDE TO THE WATERFRONT

Make waves with the whole family along Buffalo's shores! From spinning on a vintage carousel to soaring on a grain silo zip line, paddling down the river, or cruising on two wheels by the lake, adventure is everywhere here. Our waterfront is made for memory-making, and this map will help you experience all the places where big fun begins for little explorers.

Illustration by Lauren VanOsten / [@tinybuffalodesigns](#)





**BUFFALO RIVERWORKS**

**GENERAL  
MILLS**

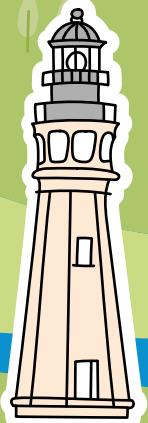
**TERMINAL B**

**BUFFALO HERITAGE  
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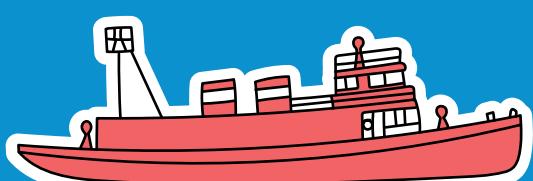
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**QUEEN CITY BIKE FERRY**



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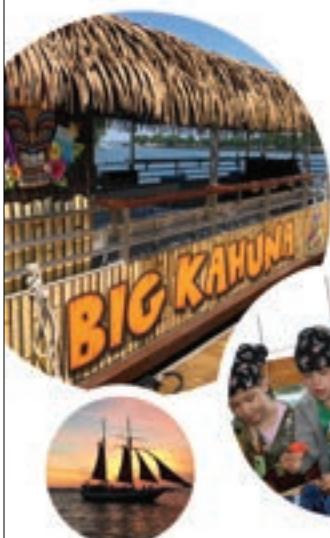


**EDWARD M. COTTER FIREBOAT**

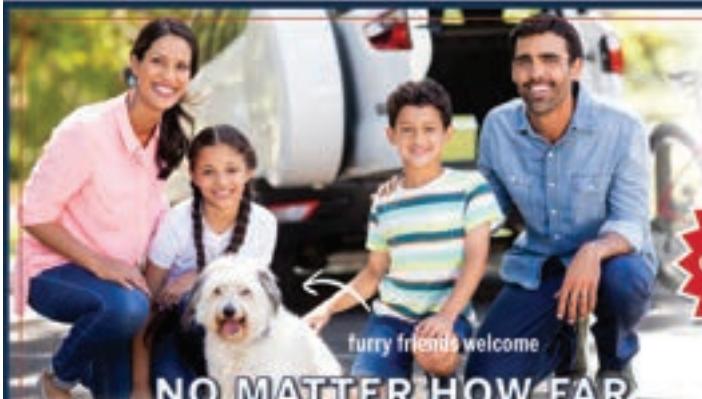
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Empire State  
Development



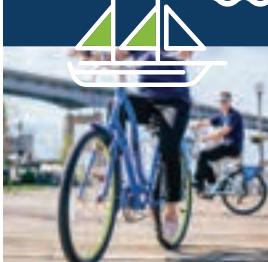
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buffalogardens.com



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# BROWSE, SHOP, STROLL

## A GUIDE TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

By Kellie Mazur | Photos by Sharon Cantillon

Erie County boasts vibrant neighborhoods, every one with its own personality, charm, and must-see spots. From small-town vibes to hip boutiques and architectural gems, these communities each offer something special: nostalgic East Aurora, artsy Allentown, cozy Parkside, and sweet (literally) Lancaster. So, grab a coffee, lace up your walking shoes, and get ready to explore the shops, galleries, eateries, and hidden gems that make Buffalo unforgettable.



Copper Shop Gallery



## EAST AURORA

It's no wonder the Hallmark Channel shoots holiday movies here. Main Street is impossibly charming with adorable shops lining both sides of the street.

Start your adventure by finding the red and white striped awning, home of **Vidler's 5 & 10**. This nostalgic wonderland boasts over 75,000 different items across four connected buildings. Keep the child-like wonder going by heading left towards Olean Street and popping in **ToyLoft** for shelves upon shelves of children's toys. From there, cross over Main Street until you reach **MUSEJar**, an art studio and carefully curated art supply shop that just may launch your next hobby. Need a break? **Elm Street Bakery**'s flaky croissants and French pastries are a must. Wrap it all up with a scenic walk down Oakwood to South Grove Street and explore the **Copper Shop Gallery** on the historic Roycroft Campus—featuring handcrafted works by nearly 100 local, national, and international makers.

[vidlers5and10.com](http://vidlers5and10.com)  
[facebook.com/toyloft](http://facebook.com/toyloft)  
[musejar.com](http://musejar.com)  
[elmstreetbakery.com](http://elmstreetbakery.com)  
[roycroftcampuscorporation.com](http://roycroftcampuscorporation.com)



# LANCASTER

Set the stage for your next outing at the historic **Lancaster Opera House**, located in the quaint Village of Lancaster, which has seen a lively resurgence in recent years. Depending on your mood, catch a comedy, drama, musical, concert, or classic film. Just down Main Street, indulge your sweet tooth at **Dark Forest Chocolate Makers**, known for their all-natural treats like Orange Melt-Aways and Skipping Stones. Next door, **Bloomsbury Lane Toy Shoppe** offers a wonderful collection of unique toys, a refreshing change from big-box stores. Across the street, **The Gilded Maple** features an ever-changing array of home décor and seasonal items, curated with love by two high school friends who turned their retail dream into reality. Round out your visit with a bite and caffeine fix at **Lancaster Coffee Co. & Café**. Be sure to try “The Central Avenue” or “The Opera House” sandwich — both delicious nods to this charming neighborhood.

[lancasteropera.org](http://lancasteropera.org)  
[darkforestchocolate.com](http://darkforestchocolate.com)  
[bloomsburylanetoys.com](http://bloomsburylanetoys.com)  
[instagram.com/gildedmaple](http://instagram.com/gildedmaple)  
[facebook.com/lancastercoffeeco/](http://facebook.com/lancastercoffeeco/)

Lancaster Opera House



Dark Forest Chocolate Makers





## ALLENTOWN

Now for a walk on the Bohemian side! Allentown is bursting with character. Art galleries, quirky shops, lively bars, and great eats fill every block! Kick things off at **Kleinhaus Music Hall** in Symphony Circle, home to the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and frequent host to touring acts. Next, take Wadsworth to Allen Street and swing by **Trend Up**, a men's boutique packed with streetwear, designer pieces, sneakers, and standout accessories. Just steps away, **Ms. Eye Candy** offers bold fashion for women, including rompers, knits, kimono jackets, and locally made accessories. On the same block is **The Good Stuff**, a gift shop filled with artwork and other unique finds made by local artists. After all that shopping, you'll be ready for a pick-me-up! Make a right on Main Street and walk south to **Penny's Coffee Shop**. It's the perfect spot to sip, relax, and soak in the neighborhood's unique energy.

[bpo.org](http://bpo.org)  
[trendupstore.com](http://trendupstore.com)  
[facebook.com/mseyecandybuffalo](http://facebook.com/mseyecandybuffalo)  
[thegoodstuffbfl.com](http://thegoodstuffbfl.com)  
[pennys.coffee](http://pennys.coffee)

The Good Stuff





## PARKSIDE

One leisurely stroll through Parkside will show you why this entire neighborhood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. At its heart is the stunning **Martin House**, Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie-style masterpiece built for Darwin and Isabelle Martin on Jewett Parkway. The 1.5-acre campus also features a top-notch Museum Store filled with Wright-themed merch. From there, wander over to Parkside Avenue and pop into **Alice, Ever After Books**, a whimsical children's bookstore stocked with diverse stories that spark curiosity. Practically next door, you'll find **Buffalo Seamery**. The shop puts uniquely Buffalo designs on leggings, dresses, and socks. This goes beyond Buffaloes too. Think pierogi and butter lambs and Polish eagles! Take a walk on the wild side with a trip across the street to the Buffalo Zoo, and stop by **Zootique** for a fun selection of animal-themed gifts to mark your visit. Cap off your tour with a breakfast sandwich and espresso at the neighborhood-owned **Jam Parkside**.

[martinhouse.org](http://martinhouse.org)  
[aliceeverafterbooks.org](http://aliceeverafterbooks.org)  
[buffaloseamery.com](http://buffaloseamery.com)  
[buffalozoo.org](http://buffalozoo.org)  
[jamparkside.com](http://jamparkside.com)





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[WNYSSB.ORG](http://WNYSSB.ORG) | [FACEBOOK.COM/SCENICBYWAY](http://FACEBOOK.COM/SCENICBYWAY)

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A collage of four images: a red boathouse at sunset, a waterfall at Watkins Glen State Park, a race car at Watkins Glen International, and a glass of white wine at sunset.

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A map of New York state with a callout to Watkins Glen, NY, marked with a red star and a blue arrow. The text "WATKINS GLEN, NY" is written on the map.

BUFFALO, NY

WATKINS GLEN, NY

EXPLOREWATKINSGLEN.COM

A QR code for Explore Watkins Glen.

# GEARING UP



This is a momentous year for the Buffalo nation.

After spending more than a half-century in the same stadium, the Buffalo Bills will kick off their 2026 season in new digs. The \$2.2 billion Highmark Stadium will feature more than 60,000 seats constructed in a way that will bring most fans dozens of feet closer to the action. A 360-degree canopy will

provide cover to much of the fanbase while also keeping the stadium open-air—a must for Bills Mafia during those December games. Highmark Stadium, which is right across the street from the old venue that original owner Ralph Wilson constructed in the 1970s, will honor the team's rich history while also celebrating the bright future of the Bills—and Buffalo.





Photo by Greg Addo

## TAILGATING ESSENTIALS

While the Bills will move across the street, the vast parking lots surrounding the new facility will continue to host one of the most legendary tailgate scenes in the National Football League, collectively creating an unrivaled fan experience. Here are five tailgating essentials to pack for your next tailgate in Orchard Park.

[buffalobills.com](http://buffalobills.com)

### GET THE GEAR

Suit up with classic Bills gear like Zubaz pants at local stores like **My Cuzin Vintage** or **Queen City Vintage**.  
[mycuzinvintage.com](http://mycuzinvintage.com) • [queencityvintage.com](http://queencityvintage.com)

### GRAB THE GRILL

Pack the grill and bring the **Sahlen's Hot Dogs**, a Buffalo mainstay for more than 150 years. Then top them with the tangy horseradish zip of **Weber's Mustard**, a local staple since 1922.  
[sahlens.com](http://sahlens.com) • [webersmustard.com](http://webersmustard.com)

### CHIPS N' DIP

Bring potato chips to share and don't forget the **Bison Chip Dip**, a game day favorite for more than six decades.  
[uncdairy.com](http://uncdairy.com)

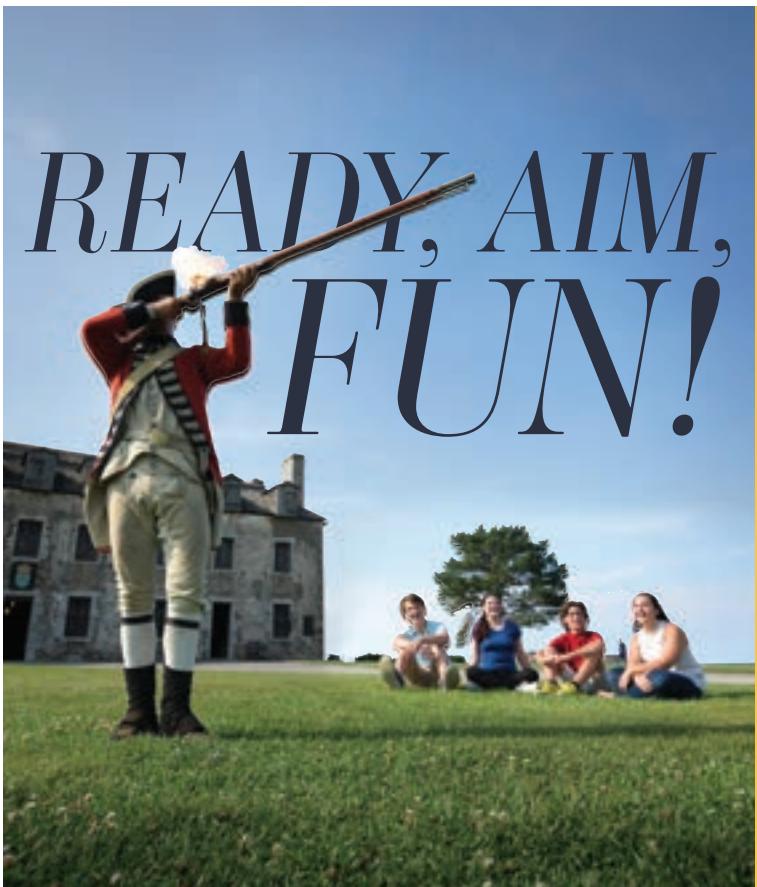
### GET CRAFTY

Wash down your meal with a Bills-themed local craft beer, like **Community Beer Works' Pils Mafia** or **Big Ditch Brewing Company's Bills Make Me Wanna Stout**.  
[bigditchbrewing.com](http://bigditchbrewing.com) • [communitybeerworks.com](http://communitybeerworks.com)

### EMBRACE THE COLD

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[waterbuffaloclub716.com](http://waterbuffaloclub716.com)





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# 12 EVENTS TO PLAN YOUR TRIP AROUND

By Kate Scaduto

From Juneteenth to Dyngus Day, Buffalo celebrates big. Our annual traditions turn streets into stages, parks into parties, and city blocks into festivals. Plan your visit around one of our storied annual events for a true taste of Buffalo's spirit and join the city at its most unforgettable.



Photo by Katie Addo

Buffalo Pride Parade

## DYNGUS DAY

APRIL 6

On the Monday after Easter, Buffalo bursts into Dyngus Day mode. Parades, polka, and pierogi fill the streets of Buffalo's Broadway-Fillmore neighborhood and other celebrations throughout the county.

[dyngusday.com](http://dyngusday.com)



## TASTE OF BUFFALO

JULY 11 & 12

A highlight of the summer season, the Taste of Buffalo celebrates the flavors that made our city famous while also showcasing fresh additions to the region's ever-evolving culinary scene.

[tasteofbuffalo.com](http://tasteofbuffalo.com)



## MUSIC IS ART

SEPTEMBER

Founded by Buffalo's own Robby Takac of the Goo Goo Dolls, this free festival hosts 200 acts across more than a dozen stages along the waterfront, featuring genres from country to hip hop.

[musicisart.org](http://musicisart.org)



## ELMWOOD VILLAGE PORCHFEST

MAY

From May through August, several Buffalo neighborhoods and nearby communities host lively music festivals on the front porches of homes and restaurant patios. Kick off the season in May at the Elmwood Village Porchfest that started it all.

[elmwoodvillage.org/porchfest](http://elmwoodvillage.org/porchfest)

## GARDEN WALK BUFFALO

JULY 25 & 26

Each July, Garden Walk Buffalo transforms several of Buffalo's neighborhoods into a vibrant floral showcase. More than 300 gardens burst with creativity and charm, making it America's largest free self-guided garden tour.

[gardensbuffalonagara.com](http://gardensbuffalonagara.com)

## BORDERLAND MUSIC + ARTS FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 18-20

The three-day Borderland Festival at Knox Farm State Park showcases nationally touring Americana, rock, country, folk, and bluegrass artists, plus local food, craft beer and artisan vendors.

[borderlandfestival.com](http://borderlandfestival.com)



## PRIDE

JUNE

Throughout the month of June and beyond, Buffalo unites in the spirit of Pride.

Join in along Elmwood Avenue for the Buffalo Pride Parade and explore events celebrating the region's LGBTQ+ history and culture.

[buffalopride.com](http://buffalopride.com)

## JUNETEENTH

JUNE 13 & 14

Highlighted by a parade, music, food vendors, and cultural events, Juneteenth of Buffalo is among the nation's oldest and largest such celebrations, with thousands enjoying this beloved summer tradition.

[buffalojuneteenth.com](http://buffalojuneteenth.com)



## NATIONAL BUFFALO WING FESTIVAL

AUGUST 29 & 30

Closing out summer each year, the two-day National Buffalo Wing Festival serves wings from 25 vendors nationwide alongside live music, contests, wing eating championships, and playful fun like bobbing for wings in blue cheese.

[buffalowing.com](http://buffalowing.com)

## ERIE COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 12-23

Spanning 12 days in August, the Erie County Fair fills 275 acres with exhibits, inventive foods, rides, live entertainment, agricultural showcases, fireworks, and quirky fun, from miniature golf to the Swifty Swine Racing Pigs.

[ecfair.com](http://ecfair.com)



## BUFFALO HOLIDAY MARKET

DECEMBER

The Buffalo Holiday Market brings the joy and magic of a European Christmas to Western New York. This spectacular 4-week shopping series set against the backdrop of the iconic Richardson Olmsted Campus features local artisan makers, vintage sellers, and holiday foods.

[buffaloholidaymarket.com](http://buffaloholidaymarket.com)



## TURKEY TROT

NOVEMBER 26

Thanksgiving in Buffalo kicks off with the Turkey Trot, a five-mile tradition where costumed runners race past Buffalo landmarks along Delaware Avenue, ending in a jubilant celebration at the Buffalo Convention Center.

[ymcabn.org](http://ymcabn.org)



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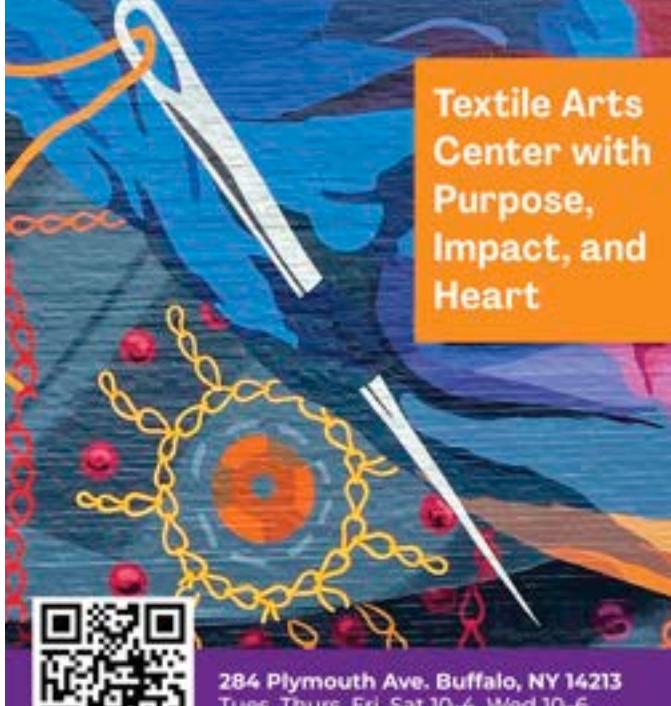
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[buffalohistory.org](http://buffalohistory.org)

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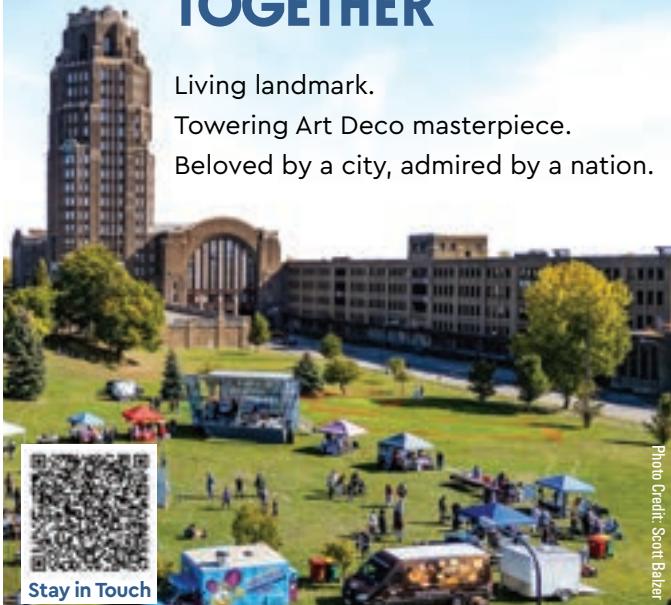


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Buffalo is a city of visionaries: poets, artists, dreamers, and risk-takers who have boldly reimagined our community for visitors to explore.

When Visit Buffalo set out to debut a new brand and campaign in 2025, we turned to many of these innovators to help create it. Our team interviewed more than two dozen Buffalonians to hear from them what makes our city unique and extraordinary.

Their insights helped shape our new “That’s Buffalo for You” campaign, the largest consumer advertising effort in Visit Buffalo’s history. This new messaging, rooted in local expertise, is reaching prospective visitors in new cities across the United States like it never has before.

These are five of those Buffalo voices who helped shape our new campaign, and who continue to shape the spirit of our city every day.

#### Left to Right

**Rick Smith**  
Owner  
Silo City

**Clorissa Bapst**  
Director of Sales & Marketing  
Buffalo Marriott at LECOM Harborcenter

**Tiffany Gaines**  
Curator  
Burchfield Penney Art Center

**Aitina Fareed-Cooke**  
Poet Laureate & Owner  
of Get Fokus'd Productions

**Ba Zan Lin**  
Co-Chair  
Buffalo Burmese Water Festival  
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Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo



Photo by Pat Cray

CORNING, NEW YORK



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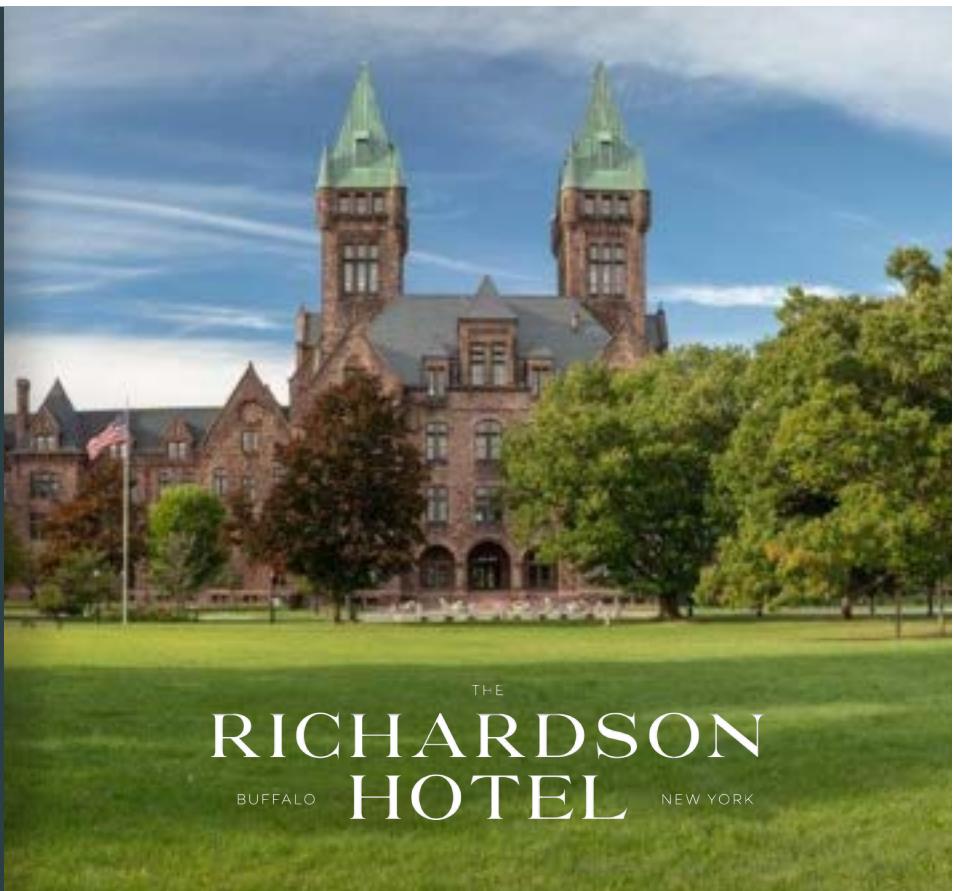
[gafferdistrict.com](http://gafferdistrict.com) | [f](#) [@](#) [d](#) [e](#) [gafferdistrict](#)



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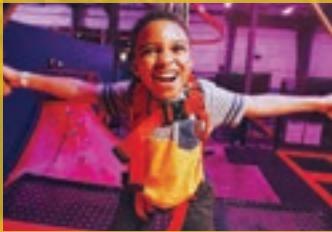
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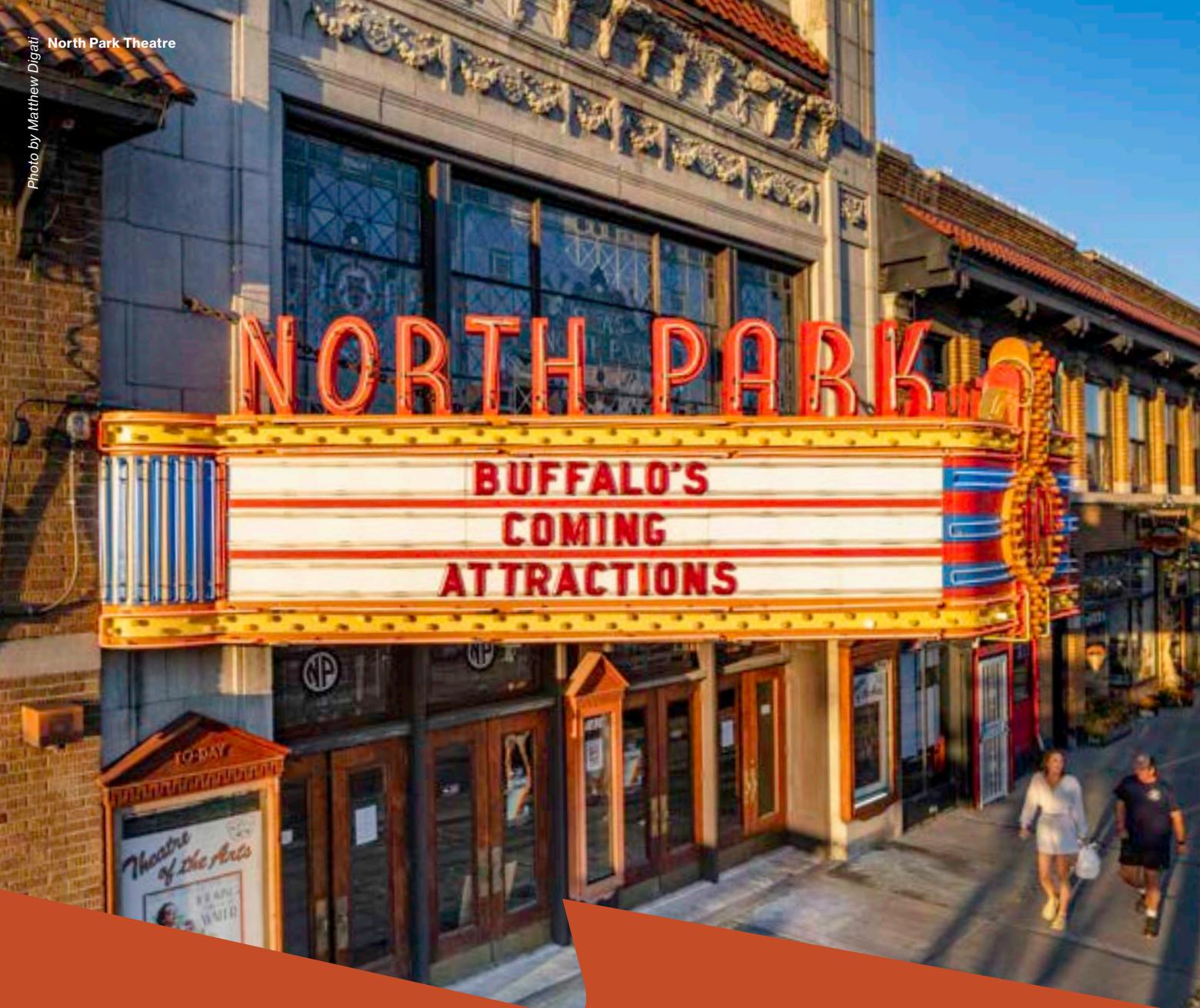
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