

# Naturally Connected

## Albion Arts Center A New Home from the Albion Arts Commission

"Initiate, support, and promote exhibitions, performances, education, and other special events involving all forms of artistic expression"  
– Albion Arts Commission Mission



Photo from 2025 "Albion Celebrates Its Black Artists"

For the past few years, the Albion community has been missing their arts hub. The place that brings all our community's talent together to share their skills with each other and the community. This November, that is going to change.

Mary Slater has been the lead of the revitalization of the Albion's Arts Commission for numerous years because she is passionate about having access to the arts in the Albion community. Slater has pulled together a commission of hardworking individuals dedicated to this goal - bringing Albion's arts to the forefront.

This work began with the annual Holiday Arts Market – a pop-up gallery for artists to show and sell their work to the community, and has evolved into more events like "Albion Celebrates Its Young Arts" – showcasing school aged students throughout the month of January, "Albion Celebrates Its Black Artists" – an annual highlight of People of Color Creators during Black History Month, "Art Under the Tower" – a two-day summer art festival, and more! Throughout these programs the Arts Commission had showcased over 50 artists and 60 young artists' work, engaged with over 25 local businesses, and drew around 1000 attendees from the Albion area and beyond.

**Story continues inside.**



Photo from 2023 Holiday Arts Market

**Albion Community Calendar inside. —————>**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – the Albion Arts Commission is expanding their impact further by opening the new Albion Arts Center! Slater emphasized the importance of showcasing and sharing works from artists of all levels and mediums. She envisions this space to be as accessible as possible to all. Located at 107 East Cass Street, the center will be a hub for creation through galleries, workshops, performances, lectures, and so much more. Working with local artist and building owner, Casey Merrild, the Arts Center will have rentable studio space and pottery studio.



Albion Arts Center - 107 E Cass St

## Make an Impact with Men Who Give

Inspired by the Albion Area Philanthropic Women, Men Who Give is a philanthropic circle complied of generous Albion men who come together four times a year to make an impact on Albion non-profits.

Once a quarter, Men Who Give listen to the needs of presenting organizations and vote on a recipient of nearly \$3,000. This money a complied donation of \$100 from each Men Who Give member.

The first center event will be the Holiday Arts Market, a wonderful way to support local artists during the holiday season. Following close behind will be the annual "Albion Celebrates Its Young Arts" opening in January. There are plans for monthly themed events like creative journal writing, jewelry making, and paper works. If you are looking to support the Albion Arts Commission endeavors, monetary support is always needed, as well as display pieces such as shelving and folding tables. Contact [albionartscommission@gmail.com](mailto:albionartscommission@gmail.com) for more information.

**Save the Date!** Albion Arts Center Grand Opening – Thursday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 5PM – 8PM, with a ribbon cutting at 5:30PM.

### Holiday Arts Market Hours:

Thursdays - December 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> from 2PM – 6PM

Fridays - November 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, December 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 3PM – 6PM

Saturdays - November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> 11AM – 3PM

Creators from various mediums will be on display and available for purchase including painting, pottery, fractal art, paper works, photography, fabric, writing, etchings, and more.

If you are an Albion resident looking to create an impact in the Albion community, consider joining. Their next meeting is November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, location to be determined. Contact [menwhogive@gmail.com](mailto:menwhogive@gmail.com) for more information!

Albion Area Philanthropic Women will meet in December. Contact [albionphilwomen@gmail.com](mailto:albionphilwomen@gmail.com) for more information.

# Dobbins Family Foundation Partners with Albion Community Foundation

The William and Karen Dobbins Family Foundation has announced a \$100,000 gift to the Albion Community Foundation, launching a collaborative effort to expand Albion’s capacity to secure new grant funding. The investment will fund the hiring of a professional grant writer, strengthening the community’s ability to attract resources for downtown development, recreation, entrepreneurship, and more.

“This partnership expands our bandwidth at a critical moment,” said Shane Williamson. “With so many promising projects on the horizon — from downtown redevelopment to enhancing our recreational assets and supporting local entrepreneurs — having a professional grant writer on our team will allow us to pursue opportunities we could not have before.”



Together, the Dobbins Family Foundation and Albion Community Foundation believe this partnership will spark greater investment, accelerate progress, and inspire further collaboration — all in pursuit of one goal: to Build a Better Albion.



## Mix it Up with the Bohm Theatre during the Holiday Mixology Class

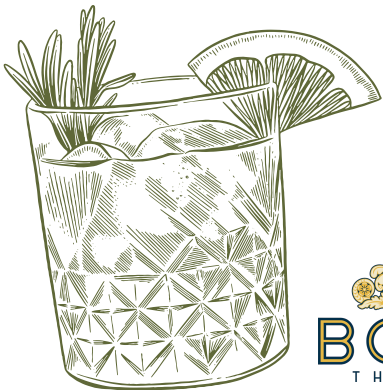
Are you hosting holiday parties this year and need some new cocktail ideas? Would you like a fun night out in Albion before the hectic holidays arrive? Do you love the Bohm Theatre? You’re in luck! At 6:30PM on November 12<sup>th</sup> learn to craft six different cocktails while supporting the beloved theatre.

Mix, mingle, and join in the holiday cheer while tasting six holiday cocktails. We’ll show you how to make each one with coordinating recipe cards. Each recipe card will have mocktail alternatives so everyone can enjoy.

Originally opened in 1929, the theatre was restored and renovated by the non-profit Friends of the Bohm and reopened as a community center for arts entertainment in 2013.

All proceeds from this special evening support the operations of the Bohm Theatre, so your good time goes towards a great cause. Bring a friend, a date, or come solo and have a great night out with the Bohm Theatre.

This guided experience has limited space and only costs \$40. You must be 21+ to attend. A special thank you to our sponsor Albion Insurance Agency of Albion, Michigan. Reserve your seat now at [bohmtheatre.org](http://bohmtheatre.org).



ALBION COMMUNITY

### What or Who are you grateful for?

Tell us what you're grateful for: a neighbor who goes above and beyond, a local business that makes your day, or even a special event or spot in town.

SHARE YOUR GRATEFULNESS USING THE QR CODE HERE.



COMMUNITY TABLE OF ALBION

DONATE HERE



The Community Table of Albion needs your support. Pausing SNAP benefits will leave your neighbors struggling. Donate today to help our community!

## Albion Activities



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| G | D | U | O | U | H | X | G | Q | F | G | C | T |
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CONNECTED  
GRATEFUL  
NOVEMBER  
SQUIRREL

MICHIGAN  
HOLIDAYS  
LOVE  
HOME

FAMILY  
ALBION  
LOCAL

## North Pole Exploration! ELF SEARCH

Join us Downtown Albion, **November 13<sup>th</sup> - December 31<sup>st</sup>** to find our hidden elves for a chance to win Albion gift cards!

Visit 10 participating businesses to find their hidden elf and get a stamp in your “North Pole Passport”. Once you’ve collected 10 stamps, turn in your passport to either the Foundry Bakehouse & Deli, Greater Albion Chamber, or Pure Albion. Winners will be announced in the new year.

### PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

- Albion Arts Center  
Albion Biggby  
Albion Malleable Brewing Co.  
Bohm Theatre  
Charlie’s Tavern  
Dickerson Music Co.  
Foundry Bakehouse & Deli  
Greater Albion Chamber  
Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum
- Marino’s Beauty Shop  
Pure Albion  
Stirling Books & Brew  
Superior Street Mercantile  
Trackside Eatery & Dry Pub  
TNT Beauty Supply  
Up & Up Upholstery  
Yellow Bird Chocolate Shop



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| <b>16</b><br><b>TBD</b> Wrestling Invitational<br><i>Albion College</i> | <b>17</b><br><b>10:30A</b> Children's Story Time<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i><br><br><b>7P</b> City Council Meeting<br><i>Marshall Opportunity School Library</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>18</b><br><b>10A</b> Wiggle Worms Storytime<br><i>Albion District Library</i><br><br><b>3P - 5P</b> Drive-Through Food Distribution - Community Table of Albion<br><i>Marshall Opportunity School</i><br><br><b>6P - 7:30P</b> Writing Circle<br><i>Albion District Library</i> | <b>19</b><br><b>12P - 1P</b> Real to Reel Documentary Series<br><i>Albion District Library</i><br><br><b>4P - 5:30P</b> Albion Knitters<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i><br><br><b>6P - 7P</b> Teen/Adult Movement & Dance Class<br><i>In-Fluence Studio</i> | <b>20</b><br><b>6P</b> Open Study Group<br><i>Albion District Library</i><br><br><b>5P - 8P</b> Holiday Arts Market Opening<br><i>Albion Arts Center</i> | <b>21</b><br><b>6:30P - 8P</b> Friday Night Trivia<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i><br><br><b>7P</b> Men's Basketball<br><i>Albion College</i><br><br><b>7:30P</b> Confluence Dance Company: Premier Performance<br><i>Ismon House</i> | <b>22</b><br><b>11A</b> Dollar Film Series: Friday Night Lights<br><i>Bohm Theatre</i><br><br><b>1P - 4P</b> Magic: The Gathering Club<br><i>Albion District Library</i><br><br><b>1P</b> Men's Basketball<br><i>Albion College</i><br><br><b>2P</b> Chess 101 Class<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i><br><br><b>2P - 6P</b> Unity Feast & Contemporary Gospel Music Festival - <i>ticketed event</i><br><i>Freeway Church</i><br><br><b>3P</b> Men's Basketball<br><i>Albion College</i><br><br><b>3P</b> Stirling Chess Club<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i><br><br><b>7:30P</b> Confluence Dance Company: Premier Performance<br><i>Ismon House</i> |
| <b>23</b>                                                               | <b>24</b><br><b>10:30A</b> Children's Story Time<br><i>Stirling Books &amp; Brew</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>25</b><br><b>3P - 5P</b> Drive-Through Food Distribution - Community Table of Albion<br><i>Marshall Opportunity School</i><br><br><b>5P - 9P</b> Senior Adventuring Guild (16+)<br><i>Albion District Library</i>                                                               | <b>26</b><br><b>12P - 1P</b> Real to Reel Documentary Series<br><i>Albion District Library</i><br><br><b>6P - 7P</b> Teen/Adult Movement & Dance Class<br><i>In-Fluence Studio</i>                                                                              | <b>27</b> Thanksgiving                                                                                                                                   | <b>28</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>29</b> Small Business Saturday                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>30</b>                                                               | <div><div><div><b>There's Enough</b><br/><i>718 Austin Avenue</i><br/>Free Store open:<br/>Mondays 10A - 1P<br/>Wednesdays 10A - 1P</div><div><b>November 8 - December 6</b> Art Exhibitions at Albion College -<br/>Munro Gallery: Exhibition by Chloe Crawford<br/>Dickinson Gallery: Prints from the Albion Collection curated by students Amelia Douglass, '27, and Sela Geraci, '28<br/>9A - 4P Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays<br/>2P - 8P Fridays<br/>10A - 2P Saturdays<br/><i>Bobbitt Visual Arts Center, Albion College</i></div></div></div> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

