



## Whites for Racial Equity

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Please join us for our annual **Secret Santa** drive to benefit the children in the after school programs at **The Village Project, Inc.** This year, our goal is to collect 137 or more fifty dollar Target gift cards. Deadline is **Dec. 8.**

Since 2008, The Village Project, Inc. has provided programs and services to inspire hope, dreams, and self-determination for the historically underserved communities in Monterey County. They provide counseling and therapy, tutoring, and community outreach - working in unison with educators and specialists in Monterey County to fill an education void that threatens to divert opportunity for students to thrive.

There are 3 ways to participate in the Secret Santa Project:

Purchase \$50 Target gift card(s) and mail to the Village Project (Attn:Monica ) PO Box 127 Seaside,CA 93955. **or**

Mail a check to the Village Project and designate Secret Santa in the memo line

Purchase gift card at Target.com and have them send the cards directly to the Village Project (attn:Monica) PO Box 127, Seaside, CA 93955

Your donation is tax-deductible.

For more info: Fred Jealous 831-224-7222



On **Nov 30**, beginning at 7:00 PM, join ***Pajaro Rising -A Writers' Benefit for Survivors of the Watsonville/Pajaro Valley Flood*** at the Cowell Ranch Hay Barn, 94 Ranch View Road, UC Santa Cruz.

The evening will feature special guests: **Jaime Cortez, Rebecca Solnit, Ingrid Rojas Contreras, Claudia Ramirez Flores**, with emcee **Alexis Madrigall**.

There will be readings and discussion, plus book signings with the authors, special live screen printing, and more (including exclusive live auction of private readings at a supporter's home!) as we raise funds for the ongoing recovery of people who survived the Pajaro River floods.

Event proceeds will benefit **Community Bridges**, a nonprofit service organization based in Watsonville/Pajaro that has provided financial aid, direct services, and assistance referrals to flood survivors of the Pajaro community.

Sponsored by Bookshop Santa Cruz, UC Santa Cruz, and the Center for Agroecology at UC Santa Cruz, with additional support from Land Trust of Santa Cruz County.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/bookshopsantacruz/1035057>



**Artist's Ink** in partnership with **Alisal High Drama** are proud to present the return of its holiday production **La Posada Magica**, a play written by Octavio Solis and composed by Marcos Loya. The play will run from **Dec 1**, to Dec 17, at the Mullins Theater located at Alisal High School.

During the holiday season the people of Mexico, and many Mexican American families in the United States wait for the "Posada", A religious festival celebrating the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a safe refuge for Mary to give birth.

Set in a Contemporary Salinas, the heart of La Posada beats with the tale of Gracie, a young girl whose Christmas joy has waned after losing her dear little brother the previous holiday season. This Christmas Eve, Gracie embarks on the poignant journey, to rekindle her belief in the power of community, while simultaneously reigniting the flicker of her own Christmas spirit.

Admission is free.



On **Dec 1**, from 6-8pm, author **LaVerne McLeod** will be at Downtown Book and Sound, 213 Main St, Salinas.

McLeod is a public speaker, author, workshop facilitator and theatrical presenter - she has also taught school for middle grades. Currently, she serves as Co-Chair of Big Sur Advocates for a Green Environment and is on Faculty at Esalen Institute facilitating educational workshops.

She'll be reading from her books, *Corn Hollow* and *The Crossroads of Social and Climate Justice*.



# Ourselves We Sing:

A fine art  
exhibition with  
special events  
celebrating the  
voices of our  
national song,  
from the poet  
of democracy  
to the present.

A Call and Response with Walt Whitman

## Pacific Grove Public Library

550 Central Ave., Pacific Grove

(831) 648-5760

[www.pgpubliclibrary.org](http://www.pgpubliclibrary.org)



Oct 6, 2023 - Jan 5, 2024



## "Asian American Voices"

Presented by

**Lee Herrick**

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 1, 2023

5:30pm - 7:00pm



Sponsored by The Pacific Grove Public Library Friends and Foundation and the Whitney Latham-Lechich Poetry Fund



**Lee Herrick** will be reading his poetry at the Pacific Grove Library, 550 Central Ave. in Pacific Grove on **Dec 1**, from 5:30-7pm. He is the California Poet Laureate. He is the author of three books of poems: *Scar and Flower*, finalist for the 2020 Northern California Book Award; *Gardening Secrets of the Dead*; and *This Many Miles from Desire*.

Herrick is co-editor of *The World I Leave You: Asian American Poets on Faith and Spirit* (Orison Books 2020). His poems appear widely, in The Poetry Foundation, Academy of American Poets, The Place That Inhabits Us. Herrick serves on the advisory board of Terrain.org and Sixteen Rivers Press. He co-founded **LitHop** in Fresno. He has taught in Qingdao, China, and for Kundiman.

# AZA

**TAMAZIGHT MUSIC FROM NORTH AFRICA  
IN CONCERT**



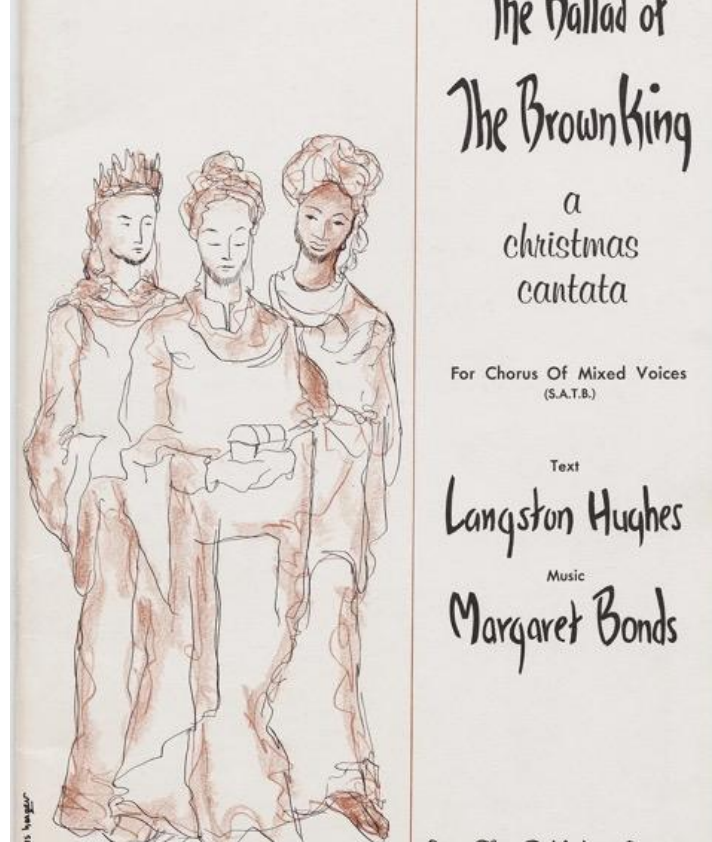
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 7:30 PM**

**AZA** will be performing on Saturday, **Dec 2** at 7:30 pm at the International School of Monterey (1720 Yosemite Street, Seaside).

AZA unites traditional Tamazight music, indigenous to the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, with the global influences of its diverse members. Evocative of Saharan-African blues, yet with an original style that truly defies categorization, Their stirring performances feature deep, danceable rhythms, intricate string melodies, and soaring, soulful vocals. Visually dynamic and engaging performers. They have been inspiring international audiences for more than 15 years.

Founding members Fattah Abbou and Mohamed Aoualou are Imazighen native to the High Atlas mountain region of Morocco, where they played and studied music for over twenty-five years, and are recognized as master musicians. They formed the sextet AZA in Santa Cruz, California, after moving to the United States eight years ago. The unique exchange between the High Atlas and Californian musicians has proved potent; AZA has produced two albums of original compositions, and performed at music festivals, clubs, and universities around the United States and abroad. In 2006, AZA was invited on its first of three annual summer tours to Morocco, to perform at music festivals throughout the country.

Tickets available through Palenke Arts at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aza-tamazight-music-from-morocco-in-concert-tickets-688836958887?aff=oddtcreator>



On **Dec 3**, from 7-9pm, Muskiest will present *The Ballad of the Brown King, a Christmas Cantata* at The Sand Box, 40 Ortiz Ave, Sand City.

It is a poignant and profound holiday celebration concert written by black female composer, **Margaret Bonds** in collaboration with her close friend, **Langston Hughes**.

*The Ballad* tells the nativity story with an emphasis on King Balthazar, one of the Three Magi, who has been described as African or dark-skinned in legends and artistic representations dating back to the Middle Ages. It is a rarely performed multi-part choral work.

Vocal soloists:

**Leberta Loral** – Soprano

**Aisha Campbell** – Alto

**Kalil Wilson** – Tenor

**Bryan Dyer** – Bass

Musicians:

**Tammy Hall** – organ and choir director

**Nancy Zhou** and **Daniel Dastoor** – violins

**Jonathan Vinocour** – viola

**Michelle Djokic** – cello

**Molly Langr** – harp

**Antonio Escobedo** – contrabass

<https://www.sandboxsandcity.com/event-details/christmas-cantata-the-ballad-of-the-brown-king-matinee-2pm>

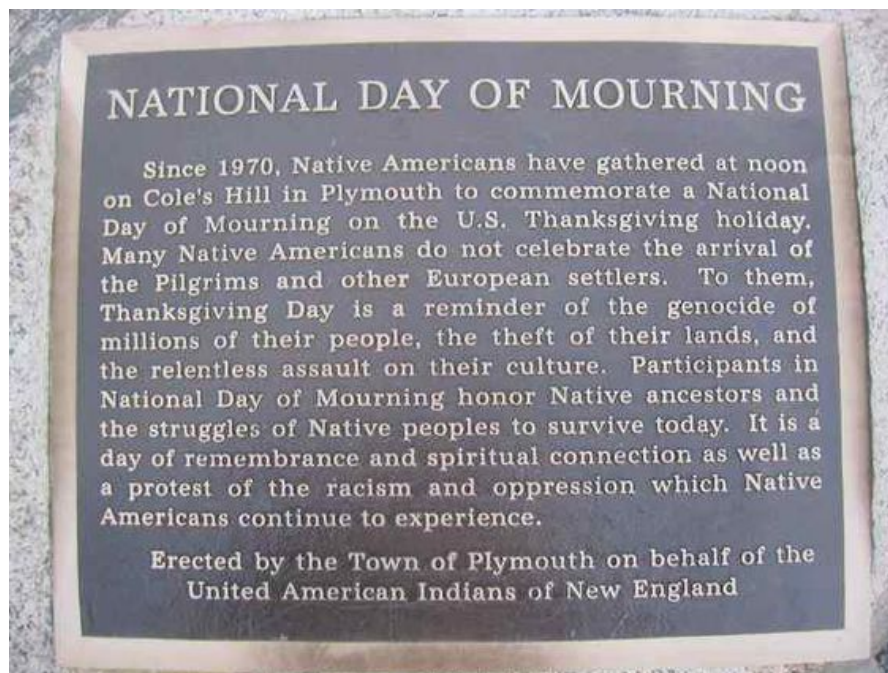




On **Dec 6**, at 1pm, the next edition of *SpeakOut: From the Heart*, will feature an intimate and personal conversation with antiracism educator and writer **Tim Wise**. For over three decades, Wise has been an outspoken advocate for racial justice speaking at more than 1500 college and high school campuses and presented at hundreds of conferences, companies, government agencies, and community groups.

He is a prolific essayist and author and his latest book—his ninth—*Dispatches from the Race War*, has been called “a bracing call to action” (Publishers Weekly) for white people to “recognize their own role in co-creating a fair, inclusive, truly democratic society.”

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/speakout-from-the-heart-w-guest-tim-wise-tickets-759278581677?aff=oddtcreator>



### Thanksgiving from an Indigenous Perspective:

The following essay was originally published in 2011. It is updated every few years to add new comments from Native American readers.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-american-indian/2022/11/23/thanksgiving-from-an-indigenous-perspective/>

**"The most fulfilled people are those who get up every morning and stand for something larger than themselves."**

**Wilma Mankiller,  
first woman  
chief of the  
Cherokee Nation**



For more information, please visit our web site <https://whitesforracialequity.org/>, and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WhitesforRacialEquity/>. Whites for Racial Equity is an affiliate of SURJ- Showing Up for Racial Justice. <http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/>

WRE encourages all to engage with events in your community, statewide, nationally, internationally, and online to create the world in which you want to live. For those of you living in Monterey County, CA, please view **the Social Justice Community Calendar** at [https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=5e1of8ba9aa72d14c55cd498bdaca8ed4060ad4759bea9f6676f15dac2bbf3ca%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FLos\\_Angeles](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=5e1of8ba9aa72d14c55cd498bdaca8ed4060ad4759bea9f6676f15dac2bbf3ca%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FLos_Angeles) to see events in our community

Whites for Racial Equity | PO Box 388, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

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