

Twin cities rich in cultural history, the arts, and innovation, deep within Gold Country.

Steeped in history and with the most famous gold–mining district in California, Grass Valley and Nevada City experienced a "cultural revolution" that has reshaped the local economy and continues to influence the statewide arts scene. Starting in the '60s, Beat Generation and deep ecology poet Gary Snyder, singer Utah Phillips, and a host of authors and musicians settled here. Now, for more than 50 high–tech companies – including a virtual and augmented reality hub – creativity occurs in peaceful, natural environments far from major urban centers.

Between them, Grass Valley and Nevada City are home to the Nevada Theatre, the oldest theater in California, and more than 100 arts-related organizations producing upwards of 1,000 events a year, scores of annual festivals, street fairs, art walks and studio tours, and a generous base of artists and makers.

As well as for its arts, the district is known for its expanding vineyards, wineries, and tasting rooms, and a trail network of outstanding natural beauty. The Nisenan lived in the region for thousands of years as part of a perfectly balanced ecosystem, thriving on the Yuba, Bear, and American river watersheds – and, over time, their sacred places are being rediscovered and cherished.

District Highlights

- North Star House
 12075 Auburn Rd.
- 2 The Center for the Arts 314 W Main St.
- 3 Artists' Studio in the Foothills (ASIF)
 940 Idaho Maryland Rd.
- 4 Art Works Gallery
 113 Mill St.
- Nevada County Arts Council at the Grass Valley Visitor Center 128 E Main St.
- 6 Sierra College 250 Sierra College Dr.
- 7 Empire Mine State Historic Park 10791 E Empire St.

- 8 Neighborhood Center of the Arts
 200 Litton Dr.
- 9 Del Oro Theatre 165 Mill St.
- Nevada County
 Fairgrounds

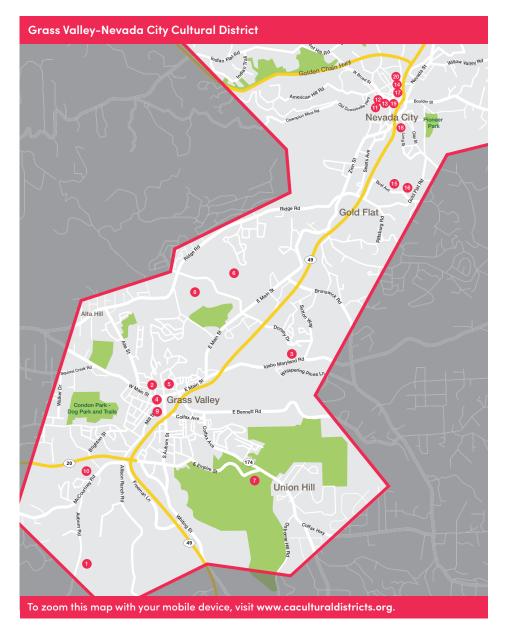
11228 McCourtney Rd.

- Miners Foundry Cultural Center 325 Spring St.
- 12 Nevada Theatre 401 Broad St.
- 13 The Alexander Gallery 225 Broad St
- Nevada City Visitors
 Center at the
 Historic South Yuba
 Canal Office

132 Main St.

- Nevada County
 Narrow Gauge
 Railroad Museum

 5 Kidder Ct.
- 16 Green Screen Institute
 104 New Mohawk Rd.
- Nevada City Film Festival
- Wild & Scenic Film Festival 313 Railroad Ave.
- 19 Lilly Vigil Gallery 214 Broad St.
- Nisenan Collection at Firehouse No. 1 Museum 214 Main St.



The California Cultural Districts program was developed by the California Arts Council, in partnership with Visit California and Caltrans.

The mission of the California Arts Council, a state agency, is to advance California through the arts and creativity. The Council is committed to building public will and resources for the arts; fostering accessible arts initiatives that reflect contributions from all of California's diverse populations; serving as thought leader and champion for the arts; and providing effective and relevant programs and services.

