MAJOR EVENTS

54th Annual Precious Cheese North Beach Festival

Sat-Sun, June 14-15 Washington Square Park One of the oldest urban street fairs in the country celebrates the area's Italian and Beatnik history with continuous live entertainment. Italian cuisine (including champion pizza tosser Tony Gemignani), arts and crafts, Italian street chalk art, and the St. Francis of Assisi animal blessing. Free. 415-989-2220, www.sfnorthbeach.org

38th Annual San Francisco **Pride Celebration**

Celebration: Sat-Sun, June 28-29 Parade: Sunday, June 29, 10:30 a.m. Civic Center & Market Street With over 200 parade contingents (led by celebrity grand marshal Charo, accompanied by a 20-foot-long pink float full of Charo look-alikes), 300 exhibitors, and 19 stages and venues, the Pride Celebration is the largest LGBT gathering in the nation. Free. 415-864-0831, www.sfpride.org

COMMUNITY CORNER

Child Passenger Safety Project

Saturday June 21, 9-11a.m. Corpus Christi Church (62 Santa Rosa Ave.) The S.F. Department of Public Health and AAA are sponsoring a free car seat checkup. Bring your child in his/her car seat so safety technicians can check the fit and installation. 415-581-2434

S.F. Juneteenth 2008

Sat-Sun, June 21-22 Civic Center Plaza A Bay Area-wide celebration of African-American freedom that encourages self-development and respect for all cultures by sharing African-American history and culture through music, the performing arts, living history, and other cultural activities. 415-931-2729, www.sfiuneteenth.org

Pasados del Presidio

Thu-Sat, June 26-28 The Presidio

The Presidio we know today has its roots in events that took place more than 230 years ago. The park hosts a series of programs commemorating "San Francisco's birthday" and the founding of the Presidio. Talks, performances and events are free. Visit the Web site for a list of events. 415-561-5500, www.presidio.gov

GALAS & BENEFITS

Project Open Hand's Seventh Annual Dessert First

Sunday, June 8 W Hotel (181 Third St.) A distinguished group of dessert chefs - including Sarah Ballard of Perbacco, Elizabeth Falkner of Citizen Cake, Jessica Sullivan of Boulevard, and Greg

65th Anniversary Cruise

\$100

 \mathbf{per}

person

Mindel of Spruce – will share their decadent creations. There will also be hors d'oeuvres, wine, port, and silent and live auctions, with proceeds benefitting Project Open Hand. 415-447-2417, www.openhand.org

Headlands Benefit Auction Thursday, June 12

Herbst International Exhibition Hall (Moraga & Montgomery Sts.), the Presidio An evening of art, music, food, and good company in support of the Headlands Center for the Arts' programs for artists and the public. Cocktails with a silent and live auction. 415-331-2787 ext. 33, www.headlands.org

Diego Rivera Mural Preservation

Wednesday, June 18, 6-9 p.m. Women's Building Auditorium (3543 18th St.) City College of San Francisco students will hold a fundraiser to preserve the college's Rivera mural. The evening will include refreshments, an art auction, music from classical guitarist Christopher Kilday, and the Aztec dance troop Xolo Sacred Dance. Free. 831-521-8759, lafridadelpueblo@gmail.com

The Guardsmen's 5th Annual **Bachelor Auction**

Thursdav, June 19 Ruby Skye (420 Mason St.) Yes! Money can buy love, as 25 of San Francisco's most eligible bachelors are auctioned off to benefit disadvantaged youth in the Bay Area. Each bachelor comes with a dream date, including a night out on the town, dinner, and a special event or activity. 415-513-1099, www.guardsmen4sale.com

ARTS & CULTURE

4th Annual San Francisco **International Arts Festival** Daily, thru June 8

Various S.F. venues A collaboration of international and local talent will fill Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Dance Mission Theater, Union Square, Herbst Theatre, and more with scores of performances and exhibitions. 415-399-9554, www.sfiaf.org

The Transforming Art of **Chris Hardman**

- Wed-Sun, thru June 15 Presidio Officers' Club, 50 Moraga Ave., the Presidio
- Extended to June, so don't miss it! This site-specific exhibit fuses light.
- movement, mirrors, and textured
- sound to remind viewers they are active participants in their environ-
- ment. Free. 415-561-5000, www. presidio.gov/calendar

Within Two Hands: The Eye of the Collector

www.sfmcd.org

Tue-Sat. thru June 29 San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design

During the mid-50s, Peter Voulkos led a "revolution in clay" by creating nonfunctional, sculptural works that gave the medium a new freedom of expression. Later, Voulkos and other notable artists maintained the momentum of this philosophy at UC Berkeley. This exhibition includes works representing this pivotal period. 415-773-0303,

11th Annual National Queer Arts Festival

Daily, June 1-30 Various S.F. venues A month-long festival of music, dance, visual art, spoken word, comedy, theater, and film featuring over 400 artists in 75 events and over 100 performances in 20 venues throughout the City. 800-838-3006, www.queerculturalcenter.org

Sunburn

Reception: June 5, 5-8 p.m. Exhibit: Tue-Sat, June 5-Aug 23 ARTworkSF Gallery (49 Geary St., Suite 215) This solo exhibition features the work of emerging, S.F.-based photographer Chris McCaw. McCaw turns the subject of his work, the sun, into an active participant in the printmaking process, creating prints that are literally burned by the path of the sun. 415-673-3080, www.artworksf.com

San Francisco Crystal Fair

Sat-Sun, June 7-8 Bldg. A, Fort Mason Center A magical mix of crystals, minerals, beads, jewelry, and the healing arts will be offered by 40 exhibitors from around the country and exotic places like Bali, Nepal, India, and Afghanistan. 415-383-7837, www.crystalfair.com

Daniel Libeskind-Designed

Sunday, June 8 Contemporary Jewish Museum (736 Mission St.) The museum will open the doors of its magnificent, new Daniel Libeskinddesigned facility in the heart of San Francisco's Yerba Buena cultural district. 415-655-7800, www.thecjm.org

Rex Ray Reception

Wednesday, June 11, 6-8 p.m. Zinc Details (2410 California St.) San Francisco artist Rex Ray has sustained his place atop the West Coast art world for more than two decades. View selections from a series of limitededition prints of his best-known work. 415-776-2100, www.zincdetails.com

Rock Art by the Bay

Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Bldg. A, Fort Mason Center The Rock Poster Society presents a celebration of poster artists and art from the 60s to the present. Rock poster artists will sign, discuss and sell their works. Free. 415-672-5857, www.trps.org

Frida Kahlo

Thu-Tue, June 14-Sep 28 S.F. Museum of Modern Art An impressive collection of Frida Kahlo's work that includes approximately 50 paintings and 70 photographs from the beginning of her career in 1926 to her death in 1954.415-357-4000, www.sfmoma.org

Chihuly at the de Young

Tue-Sun, June 14-Sep 28 de Youna Museum Dale Chihuly is the most famous glass artist living today. This exhibition looks at his colorful works that generate instant international recognition. 415-750-3600, www.deyoungmuseum.org

Native Contemporary Arts Festival

Sunday, June 15, noon-3 p.m. Yerba Buena Gardens Esplanade Featuring Native American artists, this annual event features traditional and contemporary music, dance, vendors, and free craft activities for kids - including dream catchers and bracelets. Free. 415-543-1718, www.ybgf.org

Women Impressionists

Tue-Sun, June 21-Sep 21 Legion of Honor This groundbreaking exhibition presents the work and contributions of four female Impressionists, shown together for the first time in the U.S. 415-750-3600, www.thinker.org

Power & Glory: Court Arts of

China's Ming Dynasty Tue-Sun, June 27-Sep 21 Asian Art Museum A rare collaboration with three of China's most prestigious museums brings the first exhibition of Ming Dynasty treasures to the U.S. 415-581-3500, www.asianart.org

PERFORMANCES

The Turn of the Screw

Sunday, June 1; Fri-Sat, June 6-7 Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center S.F. Lyric Opera presents Benjamin Britten's theatrical ghost story based on the novella by Henry James. The story follows the efforts of a new governess trying to save the lives of the two young children she was hired to care for. 415-345-7575, www.sflyricopera.org

Octopus

Wed-Sun, June 1-8 Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason Center Magic Theatre teams w/Encore Theatre Company in this love story rendered through a postmodern gay lens. The story examines the fallout of one night of lust on four men. 415-441-8822, www.magictheatre.org

'Tis Pity She's a Whore

Tue-Sun, June 5-July 6 A.C.T. Theater This rarely staged, Jacobean tragedv pits a hot-blooded sexual taboo against the dirty machinations of a corrupt church and state, all set to the virtuosic, edgy stylings of cellist-singer Bonfire Madigan Shive. 415-834-3200, www.act-sf.org

30th Anniversary San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival

Sat-Sun, June 7-29 Palace of Fine Arts Theatre Over 500 Northern California artists representing 20 cultures will perform with international master dancers and musicians, with a different lineup of performers each weekend. 415-474-3914, www.worldartswest.org

Beach Ball Free For All

Sunday, June 8, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. AT&T Park, outside Lot A A free concert, street fair and festival sponsored by 95.7-FM The Wolf, featuring recording artist Clay Walker. www.957thewolf.com

Saturday, June 21 10am-2pm tickets: 415.544.0100 The S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien turns 65! Launched in June 1943, she has survived and thrived at Normandy and the Pacific theatres. For her 65th birthday she cruises San Francisco Bay with lively musicians. refreshing beverages, delicious appetizers, and of course, birthday cake! Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime historic event! One of the world's last fully-functional WWII Liberty Ships.

SS JEREMIAH O'BRIEN

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 - Expert commentary and guidance from our Captain & Pilot.
- Vintage engine room tours, as seen in the film TITANIC! Tours and commentary from all-volunteer crew.
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www.ssjeremiahobrien.org

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