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FoolMoon 2021Invites You to Shine Your Light A2! Community-Created Art Celebration All Over Town March thru Friday, April 9, 2021



Photo credit: Myra Klarman

<u>WonderFool Productions</u> announces plans for <u>FoolMoon 2021</u>, an annual celebration of the power of creativity and light in building commUNITY in Ann Arbor. With community artmaking beginning in March, an array of light-filled, public art will unfold across downtown Ann Arbor and culminate on Friday, April 9, 2021 through socially distanced experiences in town, at home, and online to spark wonder and delight for all ages.

Shine Your Light A2!

This year's theme—Shine Your Light A2—affirms that our commUNITY shines brightest together, especially when times are challenging. Traditions like FoolMoon are needed more than ever. We are isolated and feeling disconnected by a pandemic. Racial injustice. Virtual everything. Social distancing. Economic hardships. Uncertainty. We all need the light, hope, and sense of commUNITY that comes from creating, celebrating, and making memories together.

"We believe in the power of the arts in healing and bringing us together to rise above difficult times as a community," shared Jeri Rosenberg, WonderFool Productions board chair and founding member. "We have been so inspired and energized by the community's eagerness to make amazing art and create joy through this year's FoolMoon celebration. Together we can open new possibilities and hope for our future, so let's make some light coming out of this long, dark tunnel!"



In its 11th year of creating magic and wonder in the heart of Ann Arbor every spring, FoolMoon invites the community to dust off their luminaries, put the holiday lights on, don a crazy costume, mask up, and join in this annual spring celebration of creativity and commUNITY. Share your light in town, at home, or wherever you want to FoolMoon! Event plans are designed with dispersed locations, social distancing, extended timeframes, online programs, and reminders for masking up to keep everyone safe.

Photo credit: Leisa Thompson Photography

March is Moon Making Month!

Thanks to our amazing community partners—<u>Ann Arbor District</u> <u>Library</u> (AADL), <u>Ann Arbor Public Schools</u> art teachers (AAPS), <u>Ann</u> <u>Arbor Art Center</u>, <u>Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum</u>, <u>Community Action</u> <u>Network</u>, <u>Neutral Zone</u>, <u>TreeTown Murals</u>, <u>SCRAP Creative Reuse</u>, and more—kids of all ages will be making art in March with an array of online and at home projects, workshops, camps, and how-to videos. Starting April 1, AADL will host 9 Days of Glow offering video craft projects, inspiration, and a contest. WonderFool Productions is engaging TreeTown Murals teaching artists to lead AAPS students in creating Moon Mandalas that will inspire a trio of mandala street murals for FoolMoon. Stay tuned for details and more ideas to turn ordinary materials into extraordinary creations for FoolMoon at <u>wonderfoolproductions.org/foolmoon</u>.



FoolMoon Art + Light to Shine in Downtown Ann Arbor

Thanks to partnerships with the downtown area associations, FoolMoon will bring its creative spirit to the <u>Kerrytown</u>, <u>Main Street</u>, and <u>State Street</u> downtown districts this year. WonderFool Productions is commissioning local artists and lighting designers to activate iconic downtown spaces, places, and windows. As one example, <u>TreeTown Murals</u> will create a trio of FoolMoon Mandala street murals in each of the downtown areas, taking advantage of the street closings for outdoor dining re-opening in the spring. Local businesses are joining the foolish fun with window painting by Brush Monkey artists or creating their own glowing storefront displays.



Public art installations will start to emerge on or around April Fool's Day and shine brightest on FoolMoon night—Friday, April 9, 2021. While we will not be able to gather in crowds or celebrate with luminary processions this year, all ages are encouraged to put on crazy costumes, light those luminaries, mask up and social distance to experience FoolMoon across downtown on foot, or by bike or car. Online, virtual programming will feature content created by local artists and youth, get you dancing in your living room, and invite you to make and share some of your FoolMoon spirit.

Photo credit: Myra Klarman

FoolMoon Stroll + Roll Supports Local Businesses

New this year, FoolMoon Stroll + Roll will promote and support local businesses navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. "This is such a great opportunity to bring people downtown to support our local artists and businesses who have been facing such financial hardships this year," said Jennifer Goulet, WonderFool Productions' executive director. "We hope people will make plans to grab a bite to eat, sip a beverage, or buy a treasure from a unique shop as they meander thru downtown Ann Arbor to experience FoolMoon on Friday, April 9," Goulet added. Many businesses will feature FoolMoon specials so join the fun as



you Show Your Love A2 and support our business community. Photo credit: Myra Klarman Watch for details at <u>showyourlovea2.org</u>.



FoolMoon Sponsors Needed!

WonderFool Productions is grateful for the generosity of the Ann Arbor community that lend essential funding support to make community programs like FoolMoon possible. This year, you can help Ann Arbor shine its brightest yet, at a time when it is needed more than ever. Sponsorships are available to support local artist installations, teaching artists for youth artmaking, art supplies, and lighting and digital media costs. For more information visit <u>SUPPORT</u> or email us at wonderfoolproductions@gmail.com.

FoolMoon 2021 will illuminate the Ann Arbor commUNITY with new and familiar experiences downtown and at

home to surprise and delight all ages. Dust off your luminaries, get your masks and costumes ready, throw the holiday lights outside, and make plans to join the light-filled wonder that is FoolMoon. Shine Your Light A2!

About WonderFool Productions

WonderFool Productions invites and empowers communities to connect through the inclusive, illuminating, and transforming power of creativity. We inspire and engage our Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti communities by:

- Collaborating with local partners: artists, schools, universities, libraries, arts organizations, community programs, public agencies, and businesses.
- Enlisting artists, makers, and designers as leaders, creators, performers, teachers, and community champions.
- Organizing creative learning activities and public art experiences.
- Producing light-filled, magical community-built projects and celebrations—FestiFools, FoolMoon, and ypsiGLOW—with an open invitation for everyone to join.

We believe that:

- Communities are stronger when people create and celebrate together.
- People of all ages and abilities can create something extraordinary out of the ordinary.
- Artists and the arts are essential to vibrant and thriving communities.

Visit us at wonderfoolproductions.org to learn more and join us!

FOR EVENT DETAILS:wonderfoolproductions.org/foolmoonJOIN THE GROUP:FoolMoon CommUNITY on FacebookFOLLOW us on:Facebook // Instagram // TwitterMEDIA IMAGES:wonderfoolproductions.org/foolmoon-gallery