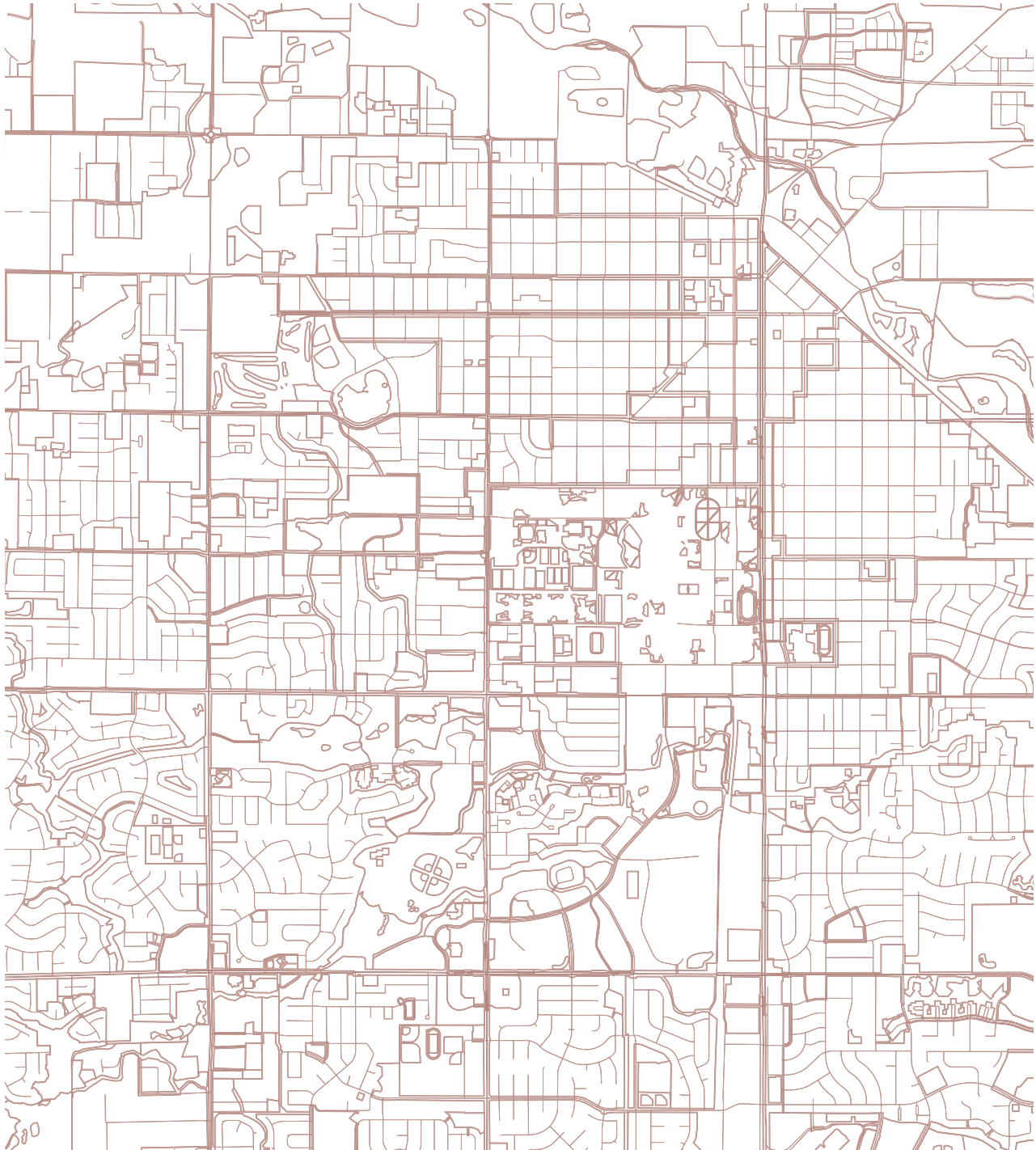


COLLEGE AVENUE

Greetings from Fort Collins

Volume 19 | Issue 1 | Fall 2023
A Rocky Mountain Student Publication



Caffeine Chronicles

Uncovering the Best Cafes in
Fort Collins

Alayna Truxal

The Face of ASCSU Supreme
Court

Horsetooth Reservoir

The Underwater History of A
Long Lost Ghost Town



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From Your Editors

Welcome to the “Greetings from Fort Collins” issue of College Avenue Magazine. In the pages that follow, we invite you to immerse yourself in the vibrant tapestry of our beloved city. Fort Collins, with its blend of tradition and innovation, is a place where community thrives, and its heartbeat resonates through the stories of its people, the unique local spots, and the spirit of the students who call it home.

In these pages, you'll discover the captivating story of Fort Collins's hidden gems waiting to be uncovered and the incredible experiences that define this remarkable city. This issue is a celebration of the essence that makes Fort Collins an extraordinary place to live, learn, and create lasting memories. We hope these stories deepen your connection with this unique community, whether you're a long-time resident or a newcomer exploring the boundless opportunities that Fort Collins offers.



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Content

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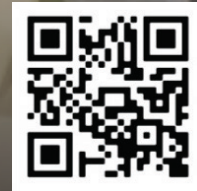
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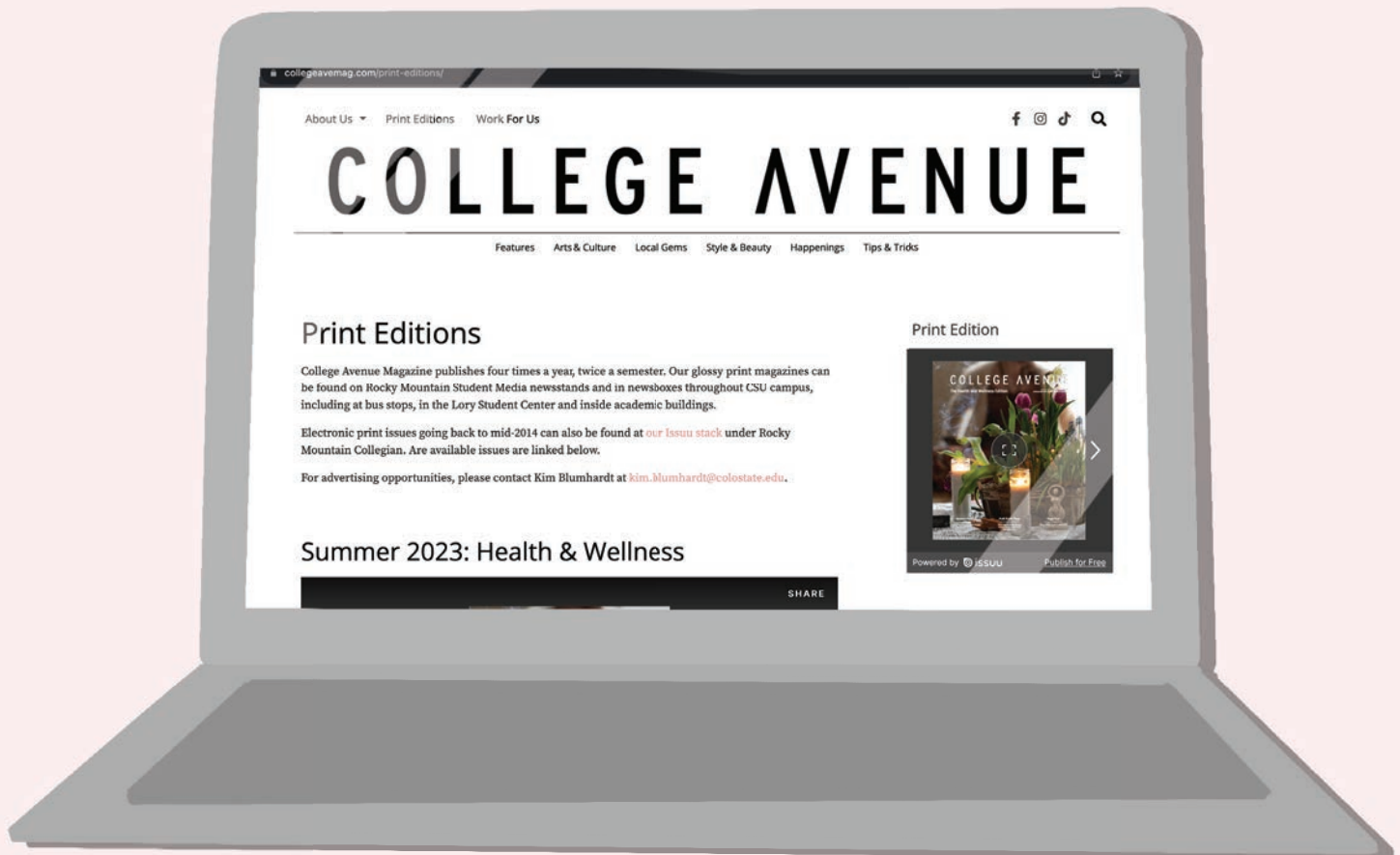
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COLLEGE AVENUE

Bringing the *Visual Arts* to the CSU Community

The Lory Student Center Arts Program seeks to bring the visual arts to all visitors at CSU. Plan your visit to the exhibition spaces in the LSC, including the Curfman Gallery and the Duhesa Gallery. Through a variety of exhibition opportunities, we hope to create an environment

- that welcomes first-time gallery-goers and long-time art lovers
- to the Heart of Campus.

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"Little Drummer Bro" by Henry Payer

A scenic view of a mountain trail with a hiker, serving as a background for the title. The image shows a dirt path winding through a forest of tall pine trees and dense yellow-green shrubs. A person is visible in the distance on the path. The background features a steep, rocky mountain slope under a clear blue sky.

Horsetooth Reservoir:

The Underwater History of A Long Lost
Ghost Town

By Avery Coates

Nestled in the mountains of Larimer County, Horsetooth Reservoir and the land around it has been a vital part of Fort Collins' history for over a century. Born out of the city's need for a reliable water source, this man made giant began construction in 1946 and became a favorite among locals and students of Colorado State University.

Locals can be found at the reservoir enjoying numerous hiking trails, swimming, kayaking, and so much more. But when everyone is busy enjoying the rocky shores, brisk water, and outdoor air, are they aware of what lies beneath the water?

160 years ago, Horsetooth Reservoir wasn't even a thought in anyone's mind. The valley that Fort Collins' water supply now occupies was once home to a prosperous mining town named Stout.

Established in the 1860s, Stout, Colo. was located just southwest of Fort Collins. It was created as a camp for miners who worked at the nearby sandstone quarries, as it was in high demand at the time.

The stone was used to build sidewalks across Colorado and Nebraska and the Colorado State Capitol. It was even shipped as far as Chicago for the construction of the Chicago World's Fair buildings in 1893.

Stout also became a popular destination for Fort Collins' residents, but not because of the scenery or town. At the time, Fort Collins had a 70-year-old prohibition restricting locals from purchasing alcohol within city boundaries. Stout became the go-to location to purchase alcohol and visit bars.

Fort Collins and Stout city officials were unhappy about this. They worried the excessive alcohol would lead to drunken drivers being a danger on the roads.

(Left) The eastward facing view from the Horsetooth Falls Trail Sept. 25, 2021.

Photos By: Avery Coates

Illustrations By: Charly Frank

Disaster struck for Stout's booming sandstone business in 1889 when Denver and several other cities began paving their streets with asphalt and using concrete instead of stone to construct buildings. Economic hardship struck Stout and by the start of The Panic of 1893, one of the most severe economic depressions in United States history, the town's economic standing was demolished.

Miners and their families began leaving the area looking for work, dwindling the population, though the town remained populated into the 1940s.

In the 1940s, the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, a federal water diversion project with goals to redirect water towards the Front Range, gained interest in Stout. The United States Bureau of Reclamation began surveying the area and temporarily set up in the old schoolhouse.

After acquiring the property in 1946, the USBR started developing plans to flood the valley. By 1949, the dams finished construction, and the valley was flooded by 1951, creating what is now known as the incomparable Horsetooth Reservoir.

Since its creation, a small community has developed around the southern edge of the reservoir which is locally known as "South Bay". Although the community is not officially





(Left) The view of the mountains above Horsetooth Falls Sept. 25, 2021.

(Below) The South Bay of Horsetooth Reservoir Sep. 7. When the reservoir's water level is low, the tower of the Stout, Colo. hotel can be seen above the surface.



“Stout”, a sign at the entrance of the community reads “Stout, Colo. population 47 1/2”.

The former townsite is located under the south end of the reservoir and on days when the water level is low, the tower of the old hotel is still visible.

Horsetooth Reservoir, with its rich history and multifaceted significance, stands as a testament to the harmony that can exist between human development and the natural world.

Almost a century after its creation, it remains a vital resource, a recreational paradise, and an enduring symbol of Fort Collins’ connection to the beauty of the Rocky Mountain foothills.

As Fort Collins continues to evolve, the legacy of Horsetooth Reservoir will continue to shape the community and remain as a staple for years to come.

(Below) A sign reading “Stout, Colo. pop. 47 1/2” stands just south of where the original town of Stout once stood Sep. 7.



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Alayna Truxal:

The Face of ASCSU Supreme Court

Written By: Annie Weiler

On May 3, 2023, the Associated Students of Colorado State University held the first session of the 55rd Senate. In attendance was the newly ratified ASCSU Supreme Court Chief Justice, Alayna Truxal, a now-senior political science major and former Associate Justice.

"I've been in this space for three years," she said at her confirmation hearing. "In any hearing I've ever been in, [my] opinions are set aside, and I look at the facts and the evidence."

Hailing from Colorado Springs, Colorado, Truxal is an avid snowboarder who enjoys making music with her roommates and spending time with her girlfriend. Her colleagues characterize her as a compassionate advocate and natural mediator. In three short years, she has found herself as the face of the ASCSU Judicial Branch.

The ASCSU has been widely criticized as "lack[ing] transparency and perceived availability." Nearly 60% of students admit

that they don't know what the ASCSU does, let alone who's in ASCSU. For an organization that self-identifies as the "student voice on campus," its effectiveness as that voice is compromised when its constituents can't explain its existence and functions. Can an organization be a voice for students if most students don't know what that organization is?

The Judicial Branch of ASCSU looking to expand its student outreach to allow them to serve as that student voice. It's responsible for upholding the ASCSU Constitution, code of ethics, legislation and other governing documents. Beyond this, it plays a broader role in ensuring fair and equitable conduct proceedings for all students, whether through the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services or the Associated Students of Colorado State University. The Court advocates for student interests in pursuit of fairness, impartiality and objectivity.

(Above) ASCSU supreme court chief justice Alayna Truxal poses for a headshot Sept. 13.

Photo By: Avery Coates

As the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Truxal manages this whole operation. Her position is crucial, both within ASCSU and for the broader student community. She wants the

Court to truly represent student interests. As part of her tenure, she wants to communicate the Judicial Branch's responsibilities to the larger student body.

"I'm very passionate about justice, in and out of ASCSU," Truxal said, referencing her desire to later pursue law school and public defense. "I'm passionate about being that voice for students who find themselves in a hard place."

Truxal's path to the ASCSU Supreme Court, let alone to the role of chief justice, wasn't always straight.

"My mom had me and my twin brother when she was 16 and my dad was 20," Truxal said. "Money was always a struggle, but my mom is the hardest-working person I've ever known."

During her sophomore year of high school, her family moved from Colorado to a town just outside Cleveland, Ohio. However, Truxal had different plans. When she decided that she didn't like Ohio, she applied to CSU and the University of Colorado, Boulder. After touring both schools, she committed to CSU, as she loved the faculty, classes and Fort Collins.

Truxal's first introduction to ASCSU was shortly before starting her freshman year. "I got an email...about an opportunity to join the ASCSU Supreme Court," she remembered. "I applied, interviewed, and didn't get the job."

This was just a minor setback for Truxal. Driven by her ambition to be a part of ASCSU, she applied for the Elections Committee shortly before the spring semester. In this role, she liaised for multiple senators, ensuring they adhered to their budgets and didn't violate election codes. Whenever someone allegedly breached a code, ASCSU would hold a hearing involving the entire coalition to decide on the next steps. It was an exercise in integrity and accountability.

This experience marked Truxal's first stint into ASCSU, and she was hooked.

"The following summer, I applied for Associate Justice again, and thankfully, [I] got the job!" She said. "I've been on the Court ever since."

Truxal knows that joining an organization like ASCSU can be daunting, especially for those without substantial experience in student government, public service or community engagement. She felt the same

way, admitting she "never had an interest in student government until [she] got to college." Despite having no experience in those spaces before college, she took the leap, driven by her curiosity to explore where this new venture would lead her.

"It was hard to put myself out there, but once you do it, it's hard to drop it," she said. "If anyone wants to do something...even if they think they're going to fail, they should give it a shot."

Beyond ASCSU's weekly meetings and CSU leadership committees, Truxal believes in her responsibility to demonstrate to the CSU and Fort Collins communities that the ASCSU Supreme Court cares about the people it represents and the broader community to which it belongs. She actively encourages her associate justices to begin passion projects to promote justice within the larger community and engage in on-campus and off-campus activities.

Truxal encourages anyone who shares her passion for justice to consider joining ASCSU and become a catalyst for positive change within the campus community and throughout the City.

"There's something special about people that want to become public servants for the sake of public service," she said. "It can be really inspiring being around this great bunch of people."

For those returning to CSU this fall, Truxal encourages you to get involved with the CSU or Fort Collins community.

"Take the opportunities that come to you," she said. "Just get out and try something new."

“If anyone wants to do something...even if they think they’re going to fail, they should give it a shot.”

-Alayna Truxal

“There’s something special about people that want to become public servants for the sake of public service”

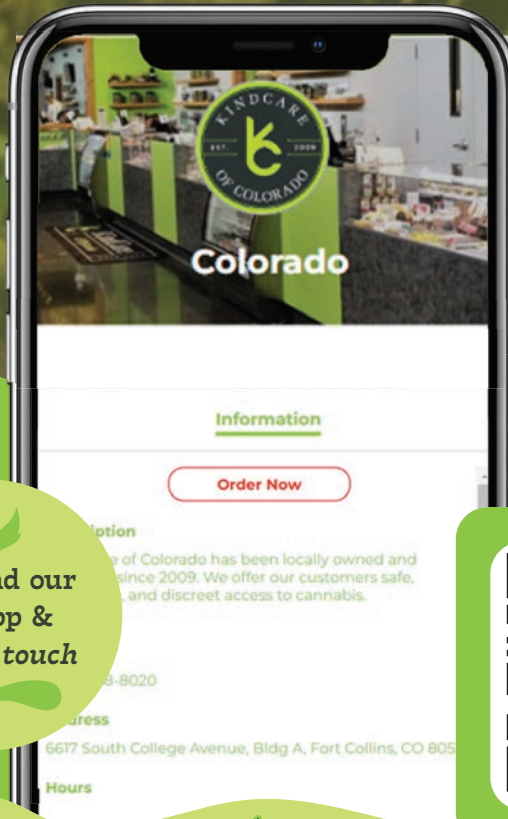
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“I’m passionate about being that voice for students who find themselves in a hard place,”

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CAFFEINE CHRONICLES:

Uncovering the Best Cafes in
Fort Collins



By Macy Taylor

What does it mean to be a “pay-what-you-can” cafe? At FoCo Cafe, instead of a register at the end of the counter, there’s a donation box. Customers simply pay what they are able to for their meal, rather than a set price.

Located at 225 Maple St, Fort Collins, the FoCo Cafe is the town’s first non profit restaurant. It is about a 50 minute walk from campus and a six minute car ride. Operating Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

FoCo Cafe’s mission is to create a community within Fort Collins through “delicious and Nutritious meals” (fococafe). Filled with lots of smiles and hard working people, the Foco Cafe is volunteer led. You can even pay for your meal through giving back and volunteering with them yourself.

The cafe is a great place to connect with the Fort Collins community. With its home-like feel, the cafe is a perfect place to bring your friends, hangout, and give back to the community.

Alley Cat

Walking into the Alley Cat cafe is never

boring. Caleb Morgan, who has been working at Alleycat for two years, remembers walking in for the first time and thinking “Wow this place is really artsy... vibes were really eclectic, messy but in an endearing way.” The walls, tables, and even ceilings are decorated with local artwork and a variety of plants.

Open Saturday-Sunday, 7-12 a.m., the cafe is located at 120 W Laurel St, Fort Collins. With only a 10-14 minute walk from campus, Alley Cat has become the perfect hangout spot for students. The cafe provides food that is locally sourced, great coffee, and even acoustic guitars to play. It is a place many go to study where they are also able to take long breaks and never get tired of their surroundings.

Alley Cat opened in August of 2005, it has regulars who have been going there for years, and has grown to become a place where anyone can fit in. Morgan has noticed that people feel comfortable “stepping into the community” and greatly appreciates that about Alley Cat.

Mugs:

Opened in August of 2002, Mugs was born with the concept of family in mind. The owners Marli & McCabe Callahan both attended Marli & McCabe Callahan both attended Colorado State University, and the ram pride is shown within the Mugs community.

(Above) People sit outside on the front deck of the FoCo Café, Sep 9. FoCo Café is located off Maple St. and is open from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday’s to Saturdays.

(Left) The ceilings at the Alley Cat Café are line with different art works, Sep 9. Customers from over the years have created the diverse collection of ceiling tiles.

Photos By: Sophie Stern



The cafe has two locations, one only 10 minutes away from campus, at 506 W Laurel St, Fort Collins. If you happen to miss the campus location, head down to Old Town for their second location at 261 S College Ave, Fort Collins. Both Marli and McCabe wanted the Rams to know that Mugs was a safe and welcoming spot to be at.

Mugs is filled with a variety of local artwork to admire while you enjoy your coffee. The company also works their hardest to support local vendors and always treats people with respect (mugs). The CSU location operates from Saturday-Sunday 7 a.m.-5 p.m. with happy hour from 2-7 p.m.

While the Old Town location operates on slightly different hours: Saturday-Sunday 6am-6pm, and happy hour 2-6 p.m. During happy hour customers are able to find great deals on food items like sandwiches, smoothies, and mac and cheese. They even serve alcoholic drinks, with a variety of mimosas, cocktails, and a bloody mary, providing options for everyone in the Fort Collins community.

MoMo Lolo

Momo Lolo has been “locally owned and family run since 2010” (momololo). When walking into Momo Lolo you are immediately welcomed by smiling faces. There is a fun trivia question to answer at the register for a chance at 10% off on your drink. The cafe is just a five minute walk from campus located at 4129 W Elizabeth Street St, Fort Collins, and is open Saturday-Sunday 6:30a.m.-6:00p.m. Macy Pederson who has been working at Momo Lolo for nine months now describes it as an “Uplifting, positive, environment.” Momo Lolo even provides an environment where students can feel comfortable and able to work, “...you can talk with your friends, ask questions, we even have white-boards!” Pederson said.

Throughout the year, Momo Lolo has rotating specialty drinks. Some favorites of Pedersen’s are creme brulee (white chocolate and caramel), purple haze (lavender and vanilla), honey bear (cinnamon and honey), and the matcha called flower garden (vanilla and lavender).

Pederson added “I come in [on my] off hours all the time... when I’m not working I want to be here”.



(Top) Spring Trever’s plays a song on her Mountain Dulcimer at FoCo Café, Sep 9. “I simply play it because its fun,” stated Trever’s.

(Bottom) The front entrance to Mugs at CSU in Fort Collins, Sep 9. Mugs at CSU is located off W. Laurel St., across from the Oval at Colorado State University.

Illustrations By: Charly Frank



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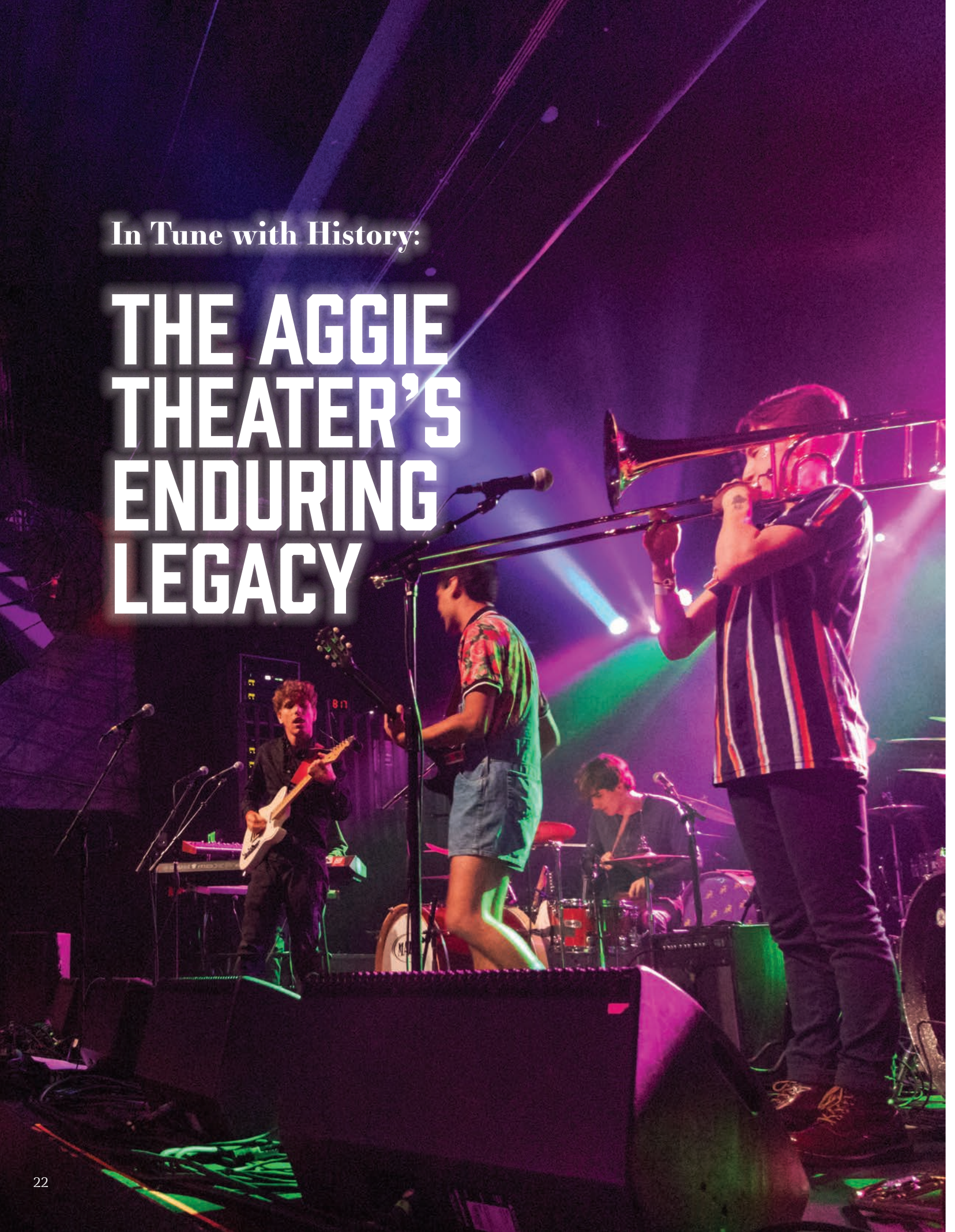
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In Tune with History:

THE AGGIE THEATER'S ENDURING LEGACY





Written By: Alexis Freudenthal

Located on 204 S College Ave., sits a landmark institution of Fort Collins and Colorado State University alike. The Aggie Theater, nicknamed “The Aggie”, has been around for over a century, with numerous businesses calling this unique building home.

In 1916 a furniture store, named Harris-Warner Furniture Company, opened its doors to the Fort Collins public. In 1948 it was transformed into another furniture store called the Neutze Furniture Company, which was run by John and Mary Neutze until tragedy struck in 1951.

A fire started in the building, utterly destroying everything but its four exterior walls.

Architect Perry Knight rebuilt The Aggie in 1955 as a movie theater but was closed by Commonwealth Theaters in 1987. It was later reopened in 1990, but shortly closed its doors again in 1995, with their last showing; “Money Train” with Wesley Snipes.

In 2002, it was opened as the memorable concert hall that we know today. The Aggie is able to hold over 600 people and is one of the largest concert venues in Fort Collins. No matter what you’re into, The Aggie has it.

The interior of The Aggie has as much rich history as the building itself. You can feel the energy and excitement in the air at every event hosted there as if the walls were the ones exuding excitement.

Colorado State University student Ruthie Evilsizer said, “It’s a great atmosphere and it feels like such a tight-knit community,”

(Above) Mike Davis, drummer and backing vocalist for Chess at Breakfast, crowd surfs during the Farewell World Tour concert at the Aggie Theatre July 2, 2021.

(Page 22) Ben Eberle, Jacob Maestas, Ethan Christi, and Hays Bruce of local band People in General open for boy pablo at the Aggie Theatre Nov. 5, 2021.





Colorado State University student Ruthie Evilsizer said, “I saw Miranda Fling perform there and Wild Child; everyone was so excited and celebratory and it was good fun!”

The Aggie has constant events and streams of artists coming through its doors every day, ranging across all genres. Hosting events like “K-Pop nights” and “Rocky Horror Picture Show”, with an insane lineup of musicians and artists every day.

Check out artists like; “Moon Hooch”, coming October 7th, “Stoplight Observations”, coming October 24th, and “Fleece” coming October 9th. For a full list of artists check out the z2 entertainments website, or just take a walk down South College to see the posters that wallpaper the windows of this historic site.

While you don’t need to be 21 to get in you do have to have your ID on you to enter, and you are not allowed to bring alcohol to the venue. There is a full working bar open to all Aggie guests over 21.

The Aggie is a pillar in Fort Collins nightlife, and will forever be the antique concert hall that offers any and all entertainment for everyone.

(Above) Ben Eberle and Ethan Christe of People in General perform at the Aggie Theatre July 2, 2021.

(Page 24 Top) Caleb McFadden, singer and guitarist for Chess at Breakfast, performs during the Farewell World Tour concert at the Aggie Theatre July 2, 2021.

(Page 24 Middle) Guest guitarist Colin Farnsworth performs with Caleb McFadden and Justin Daggett of Chess at Breakfast at the Aggie Theatre during the Farewell World Tour concert July 2, 2021.

(Page 24 Bottom) Nicolás Muñoz, singer and guitarist for boy pablo, performs “everytime” at the Aggie Theatre Nov. 5, 2021. boy pablo rose to popularity in 2017 when the YouTube algorithm began recommending the video for “everytime” and this was the band’s first concert in Colorado.

Photos By: Michael Marquardt

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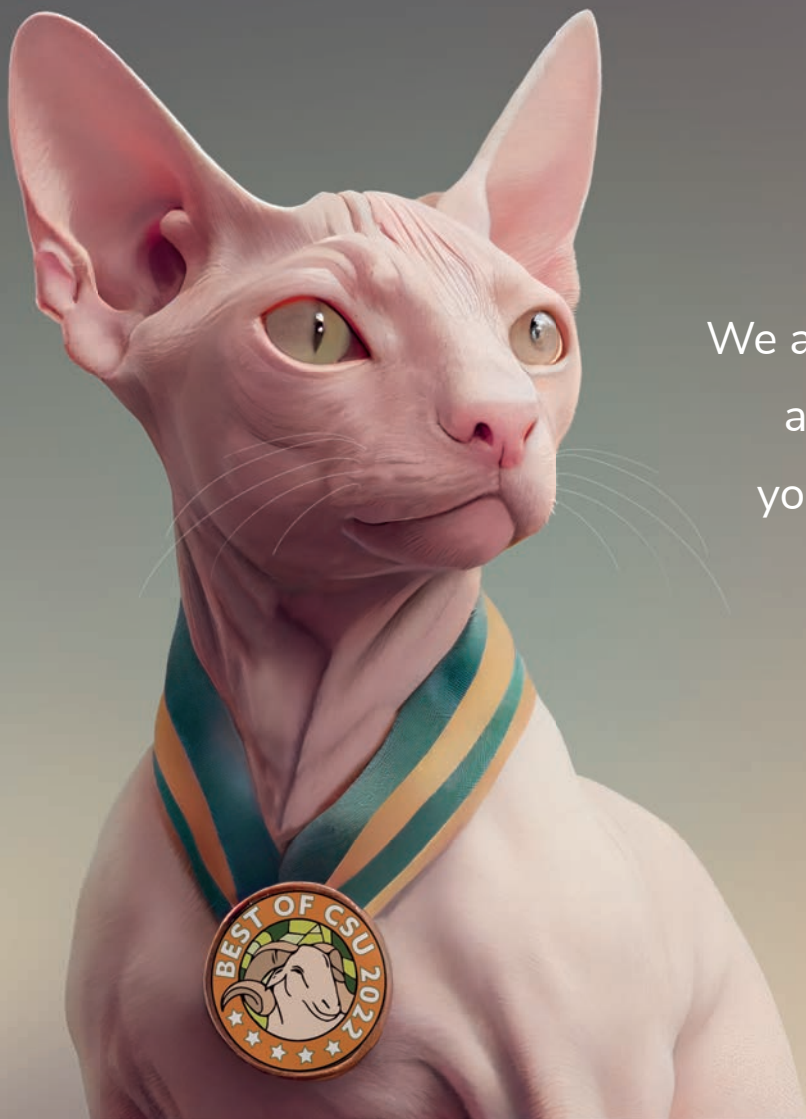
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Mile High Romance: 5 Fort Collins Establishments that are an Absolute Must for Date Night

Written By: Alli Price

Tired of staying in and ordering takeout all the time? Looking for a way to spice up your night out in Fort Collins? Check out these five unique places on your next date night with your better half, core group of besties, or take yourself out for some quality time to experience the true essence of Fort Collins.



The Exchange

Want that nice 'dining under the stars' experience with a relaxing backyard feel, but don't want to put in the effort to cook? You don't have to! The Exchange is a trendy, yet casual experience laid out with soft turf grass, scattered lawn chairs, and patio furniture for lounging with twinkling lights dangling above the whole yard. On occasion, there is cornhole and Jenga set up for the public to play. The Exchange also offers a wide variety of cuisine including Vatos Tacos, Pennrose, and Old Town Churn Ice Cream, all of which are just a few feet in proximity.



Fort Collins Food Truck Rally

Having an authentic culinary experience unique to Fort Collins does not need to happen in the hustle and bustle of a crowded, dark restaurant. It can be as simple as walking to the local City Park. Every Tuesday night over the summer, City Park brings the extreme 'picnic in the park' experience of a lifetime. The Fort Collins Food Truck Rally offers live music from local bands and a wide variety of all genres of culinary arts native to the Northern Colorado area, all while dining under a Colorado sunset.



Pinots Palette

\ Let your creative juices flow, all while sipping on a beverage of your choice. This location offers fun and casual painting classes and an extensive drink menu with both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. No matter the level of artistic experience, this establishment provides a lively environment for a creative and unconventional night out.



Union Station Bar & Soda

This modern, trendy eatery is built on the grounds of what used to be Fort Collins' Union Pacific Train Station which was established in 1911 but was later taken down in 1959. The Union Bar is famous for their extensive cocktail and mocktail menu all made with their soda fountain. The restaurant also offers brunch earlier in the day, seven days a week.



The Lyric

This movie screening experience is, without a doubt, unique from any other movie theater in town. Doubling as a movie theater, bar, and grill, The Lyric provides full bar and food service with live music for their guests to enjoy before their showtime. The Lyric caters to each of their guests' needs with a dietary-friendly menu and offers any of their signature cocktails as a mocktail for those who are underage or don't care for alcohol. They also offer cozy couches and loveseats in each of their screening rooms for optimal comfort during the movie. The Lyric is the perfect 'dinner and a movie' date experience all wrapped up in one.

(Page 29) (Top) The Exchange on the evening of September 7th. (Middle) An evening at the Fort Collins Food Truck Rally on the 5th of September.

(Bottom) The entrance of Pinot's Palette in Old Town Fort Collins on September 7th. Photo by

(Page 30) (Top) The soda fountain at the bar of The Union Bar & Soda Fountain in Fort Collins on September 7th. (Bottom) The lobby of The Lyric Movie Theater on September 7th.

Photos By: Allie Price

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