## STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

**MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER** 

#### **WELCOME 4TH QUARTER**









Last month, the Stamford Town Center welcomed to the Southern Plaza a unique restaurant called the 4th Quarter. Fueled by Isis-Rae Goulbourne's creative vision for the former Kona Grill space (adjacent to the Capital Grille), the idea of creating a seasonal pop-up venue for dining and community gatherings was launched into reality. Isis, the owner of the 4th Quarter, is an active Stamford resident who is the Head of Events and Community at Stamford Partnership and Realist Lab's CMO & Head of Events. She now operates as one of the few black womanowned businesses in Stamford. Inspired by her native roots in Montreal, Isis's vision is to create a new theme in the restaurant for each quarter. This season, patrons may enjoy a Winter Festival theme in the 8,000 square foot space equipped with beautifully decorated lounge areas, a restaurant and bar. Other surprise themes are being prepared to transform the space in future quarters. So far, the restaurant has held various private and public events to date. From everything to networking events and mom meet-ups to political fundraisers and nonprofit board meetings.

Isis has partnered with the former owner of La Vista Bistro by Cove Beach, Ram Komani as operator of the 4th Quarter. With years of restaurant experience, Ram has the versatility to convert the space from a DJ nightclub atmosphere for events such as Ladies Night Out or to a weekend jazz venue for brunch gatherings. Credit for the transformational interior designs is attributed to plantings by Designs by Lee and rotating furniture by Remix of Stamford on Selleck Street. Isis shares that her concept for the 4th Quarter stemmed from her not wanting to go to New York City to find a cool hang out spot for the 35+ crowd.

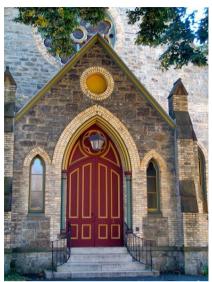
Stop in for happy hour or book a party for you and your friends online. Traditional American food such as burgers, pastas, pizzas are all on the menu, with specialties including whiskey tangy wings or ribeye fritz, the best ribeye in town!

For hours and menu details, visit 4thquarterct.com





# INTRODUCING EMERSON HALL EMERSON HALL SEEKS MUSICIANS, ARTISTS, ACTORS, AND EVENT PLANNERS!





Exterior and Interior of Emerson Hal

Described as a new venue in an old space... introducing the recently renamed Emerson Hall. This spacious main hall, housed in a 150-year-old building, holds up to 200 people, theater-style, and boasts stellar acoustics. Owned by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Stamford and housed in a National Historic Landmark building, the venue was recently named for Ralph Waldo Emerson, who was a Unitarian minister before he became a prominent essayist, philosopher, and public lecturer in 19th century America. Conveniently located at 20 Forest Street (across from Latham Park), Emerson Hall has just been awarded a Stamford Arts & Culture grant for a fundraising concert in early 2024.

Emerson Hall can be configured to suit most any group's size or needs. Behind its main hall is a smaller space for receptions and more intimate gatherings, equipped with a recently renovated cook-free kitchen for staging catered events. Over its history, this Downtown location has hosted musical concerts of all scopes and sizes, art shows, theatrical productions, meetings, workshops, banquets, and celebrations of all sorts.

"Emerson Hall is a truly inspiring space with natural acoustics that invites you to listen deeply and connect with creative energy," exclaims internationally known pianist and composer, Cyrus Hochstetter. "Their Steinway piano has a gentle soul with age old wisdom. I've practiced and played a concert on it; it felt like meeting an old friend."

To inquire about rental or to schedule a tour of this magnificent performance and event space, please contact Christine, the Office Administrator at (203) 348-0708. Watch for upcoming 2024 event announcements at <u>uustamford.org!</u>

#### Next Event:

Sunday, January 28, 2024, 3 P.M., Connecticut Composers Project: Traditions & Transformations Suzanne Corey-Sahlin, viola; Gunnar Sahlin, cello; Marc Chan and Benjamin Steinhardt, piano Program celebrating the rich and varied music of Connecticut composers.

Suggested donation \$20.





#### WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST? ART EXHIBITION AND WINE TASTING







"The Train" by Rita Ghandour

"The Kiss" by Thomas Carroll

Love is in the air! On Thursday, February 8th, from 5:30-7:30 P.M., "What Do You Love Most?" an art exhibit at the Stamford Art Association's historic <u>Townhouse Gallery</u> located at 39 Franklin Street, will be open for a special evening. Art appreciators can come together to enjoy artwork created by local artists and enjoy a wine tasting sponsored by Withers Winery, a top 100 American winery. The tasting will be led by Withers Founder Andrew Tow. There will be a silent auction offering opportunities to bid on fabulous gifts just in time for Valentine's Day, including floral arrangements and gift certificates to Stamford restaurants.

Suggested donation is \$20.

"What Do You Love Most?" will run from January 27 to March 1, 2024. Gallery hours are Friday-Sunday 12-3 P.M.



#### **DECK THE DOWNTOWN STOREFRONT WINNERS**

Congratulations to our Deck the Downtown holiday storefront decorating contest winners! Twenty four Stamford Downtown businesses participated in our 14th contest. The public was asked to vote online for the winner and we are pleased to announce that Remo's Brick Oven Pizza Company has been awarded Best of Show with the \$750 winnings going towards their spring facade improvements. A big shout out also goes to Bradford's Grill & Tavern, our Second Place winner who has donated their \$500 prize money to Stamford Hospital's Paint the Town Pink fundraising campaign.





Best of Show: Remo's

### STAMFORD DOWNTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE & AMBASSADOR SERVICES DECEMBER STATISTICS





1,843





1,298



6x







Now pay for parking before shopping at <u>Target</u> (21 Broad Street) with Premium Parking Click <u>here</u> for more information







#### OPENING RECEPTION: SYMPHONY OF COLORS EXHIBITION



'I don't bang or slang on gang" by Brie Miyoko

The Opening Reception on Thursday, February 1, 2024, at <u>The</u> Ferguson Library will have author Kelly Walters, who will read excerpts from her novel "Black, Brown + Latinx Design Educators: Conversations on Design and Race", where she unpacks questions about the experiences of Black, Brown, and Latinx graphic design educators in college classrooms today. Through her text, she explores how racial identity particularly influences design practitioners of color today. In the talk, she will consider what it means to be a person of color in the field of graphic design and read selections from the book's twelve deeply personal interviews.

Curated by Isabella Montenegro, this exhibition focuses on harmony and features works by 15 local and regional artists of color. Including work by Greg Aime, Michael Bazelais, Jean Benoit, Wesner Bernadel, Cal Bocicault, Tara Blackwell, Shaunda Holloway, Iyaba Mandingo, McLee Mathias, Brie Miyoko, SAIN't Phifer, Sharon Smalls, Brea Thomas-Young, Tiara Trent, and Kelly Walters.

Highlighting 15 local and regional artists of color during Black History Month, "Symphony of Colors explores the theme of harmony. Black History Month 2024 will spotlight "African Americans and the Arts" which focuses on African, Caribbean, and Black American lived experiences. Through each artist's work, you can see the artists share their stories and experiences through art. The exhibition runs through March 21, 2024, during regular library hours: (Monday - Thursday, 10 A.M. - 8 P.M., Friday 10 A.M. - 6 P.M., Saturday 10 A.M. - 5 P.M., and Sunday 1 P.M. - 5 P.M.).

#### CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS AND LOVERS OF STAMFORD!!



Stamford Downtown's annual Winter Lighting display has become a hallmark of winter nights within the geographic heart of the city. Each year, this program greets residents and visitors with lights on 80 street trees, the trees surrounding Latham Park as well as the iconic displays on the oak trees at Columbus Park and in front of the Ferguson Library. This year Stamford Downtown encourages everyone to tag @stamforddowntown on Instagram in their favorite photos of the lights. These photos may be selfies, group shots or only the lights themselves. Stamford Downtown will post the photos to social media and, at the end of the season, the public will vote on their favorite photos. Stamford Downtown encourages all to come enjoy the lights and use their creativity to highlight the brilliance of winter lights in Downtown!

