

Speak of the Devil

The List

November:

This month, go gourmand. Then, try a musical about religion, a patriotic symphony, and early holiday shopping.

THEATER

Status Update

(11/1–11/18)

Walnut Creek's Center Rep kicks off its edgy, alternative Off-Center series, with a world-premiere musical comedy about social media and Internet addiction—with an *Alice in Wonderland*-esque twist. centerrep.org.

ART

BG Craft Fest

(11/4)

Get a head start on holiday shopping with hand-made gifts from Bay Area artists—from upcycled cashmere stuffies by Oakland-based Modifyd to baubles from Oakley's Shimmer Jewels—at the Bedford Gallery. bedfordgallery.org.

FILM

California Independent Film Festival

(11/8–11/11)

Film buffs won't want to miss this weekend of features, shorts, and documentaries; a filmmaker contest; and tributes to actresses Connie Stevens (*Hawaiian Eye*) and Dawn Wells (*Gilligan's Island*), in Moraga and Orinda. caiff.org.

MUSIC

Celebrating Democracy

(11/9)

Oakland East Bay Symphony opens its season with an all-American program featuring Adolphus Hailstork's *An American Fanfare*, and selections from *West Side Story* and Aaron Copland, at the Paramount Theatre. oeb.org.

SHOPPING

Earlier Than the Bird

(11/17)

Set your alarm early, and stay in your jammies for this annual early-morning shopping event and pajama party in Livermore and Pleasanton. Downtown boutiques open at 7 a.m., offering deals, refreshments, and free gifts. pleasantondowntown.net.

THEATER

The Book of Mormon

(11/27–12/30)

The nine-time Tony Award-winning religious musical satire—from the creators of *South Park* and *Avenue Q*—makes its first visit to the Bay Area, at San Francisco's Curran Theatre. shnsf.com.

For even more picks, check out the weekly *Top Tickets* blog at diablog.com. —LEEANNE JONES



The Book of Mormon
11/27–12/30



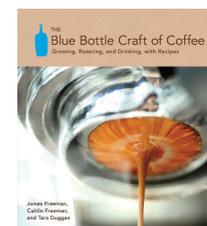
BG Craft Fest
11/4

Foodie Fun

It wouldn't be a food issue without highlighting the month's best food and wine events. Here are a few to chew on.

November 2 Blue Bottle Craft of Coffee

Meet Blue Bottle master roaster James Freeman at a dinner and book signing hosted by Danville's Rakestraw Books. rakestrawbooks.com.



November 3 Gourmet East Bay

Enjoy samples from more than 30 restaurants, wineries, and breweries, plus live music, dancing, and prizes, at Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek. gourmeteastbay.com.

November 13–16 Truffle Dinners

Truffles are brought in direct from Italy for these special dinner menus devoted to the fungi at Oakland's Oliveto. oliveto.com.

November TBD New Parkway Theater Opening

More than three years after Oakland's beloved Parkway Theater closed its doors, a sequel to the pizza-and-a-movie concept is due to open around Thanksgiving. thenewparkway.com.

TOP TO BOTTOM: JOAN MARCUS; SHIMMER JEWELS/AMANDA EMERY; COURTESY OF TEN SPEED PRESS