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# VALA

## Venues for Artists in the Local Area

Connecting artists to artists, artists to the community, and the community to art.



### Artist Call

## ✨ CALL FOR ARTISTS: FORBIDDEN FRUIT ✨



#### Forbidden Fruit

VALA Eastside invites artists to explore the enigmatic allure of the "Forbidden Fruit" in our upcoming exhibition. Throughout history, these fruits have symbolized desires, taboos, and the relentless quest for the unknown. The deadline for artist applications is **October Friday the 13th, 2023**.

Open to all artists working in any medium, including but not limited to painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, printmaking, and digital art. Poetry, video, and spoken word performance are also encouraged.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The deadline to apply is October Friday the 13th, 2023.

For more info and to apply, click: [forms.gle/WvF7VGOM4pVnix1v8](https://forms.gle/WvF7VGOM4pVnix1v8).

## 🎃 RISE OF THE PUMPKINS 🕯️



#### Rise of the Pumpkins!

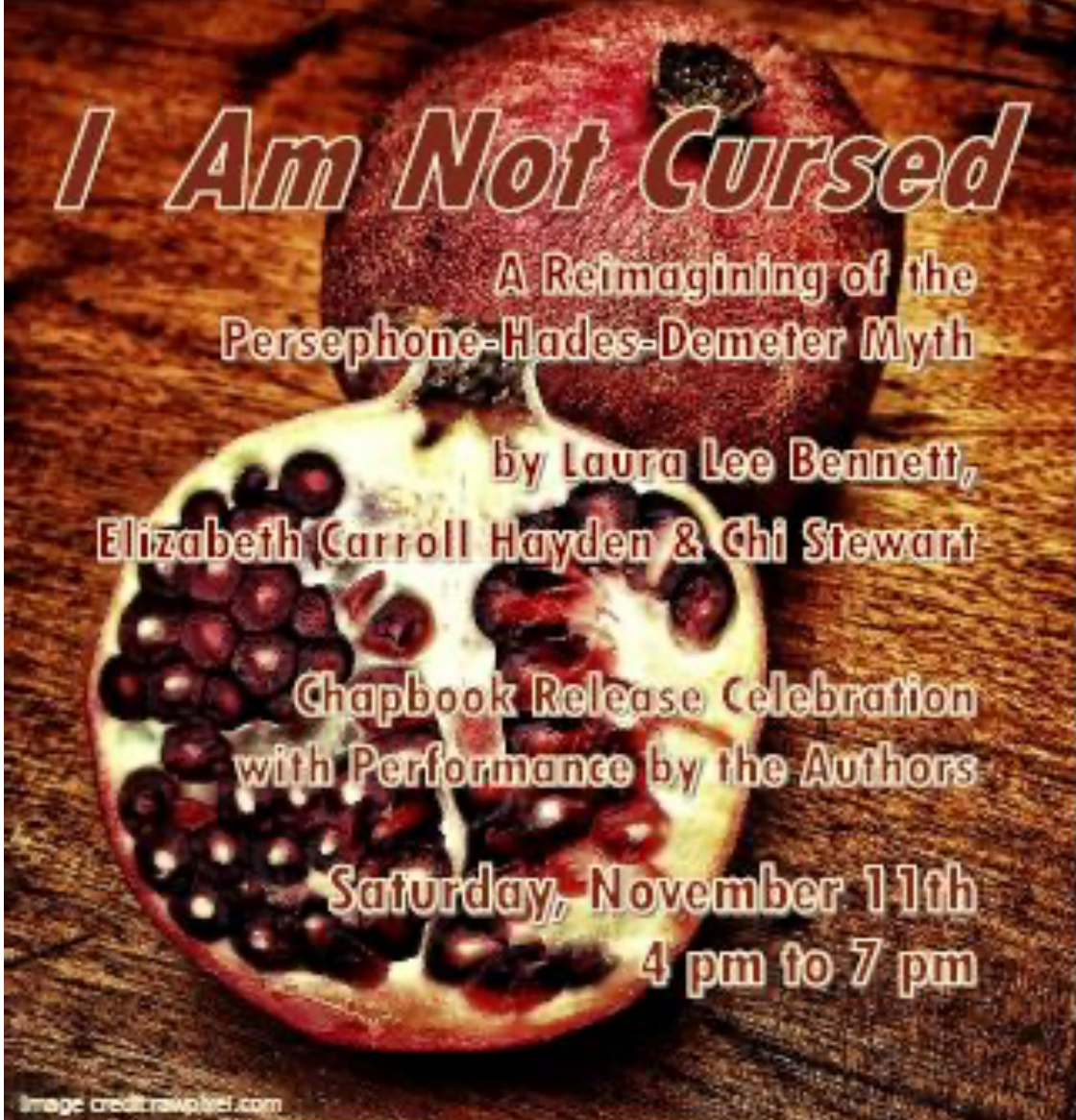
Some pumpkins are cheeky, casting mischievous shadows in the moonlight; others are regal, wearing carved crowns of elegance, but all pumpkins have a tale to glow. What tale does your inner pumpkin want to tell? Heed the call and take up the charge! Join in the Rise of the Pumpkins! Craft your masterpiece for a chance to be featured by VALA. Let the spotlight shine on your creation!!!

THROUGHOUT OCTOBER

For more info, click: [Rise of the Pumpkins | VALA Eastside](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Poetry Book Launch



#### *I Am Not Cursed* Poetry Chapbook Release Party

With a Reading by the Authors:  
Laura Lee Bennett  
Elizabeth Carroll Hayden  
Chi Stewart

Saturday, November 11th | 4 PM to 7 PM  
Reading start at 4:30 PM, followed by booksigning

A modern-day Persephone takes off with Hades on the back of a motorcycle. Mother Demeter is in a rage, and utters a curse! Join us for this "voice play" of the classic mother-daughter-husband triangle.

### Worry Worm Workshop



#### Worry Worm Workshop

Crochet for a Cause  
Sunday, October 29th | 2 PM to 4 PM.

The "Worry Worm Workshop: Crochet for a Cause" event, led by the talented Lavanya and Mihika Venkateswar of [Meaningful Actions](#). Participants will be taught to create adorable worry worms.

## Binding Brilliance



#### Binding Brilliance

Secrete Belgian Bookbinding Workshop  
Sunday, December 10th | 3 PM to 5 PM.

Join Kay Bae to unlock the secrets of Secret Belgian Bookbinding and craft your own personalized book. With Kay Bae's guidance, participants will carefully fold and assemble book pages, securing them with threads and covers. This workshop focuses on the decorative binding process, empowering each participant to create a one-of-a-kind masterpiece reflecting their style and creativity. Registration is free. BYOS; see supply list: [bit.ly/3It5yMxH](https://bit.ly/3It5yMxH)

## Redmond Lights



#### Redmond Lights VALA Events

Stay Tuned  
Special Dates | Times TBA

Redmond Lights is a free, month-long celebration of light and art in Downtown Park. VALA Art Center will be a "Blinker Stop" as well as offer several activities, including a Hot Cocoa Party, Carol Night, and a Make & Take Ornaments Project.

## Announcements

### VALA Board Member Receives Award



#### Latha Sambamurti

2023 Washington Humanities Award  
On September 29th, 2023.

Humanities Washington honored Latha Sambamurti with the 2023 Washington Humanities Award. The award was given at Humanities Washington's "Bedtime Stories" event in Seattle on September 29, 2023. The award was given "for her advocacy and leadership in support of humanities, arts, and culture." Congratulations, Latha!

### VALA Recognized at City Council Meeting



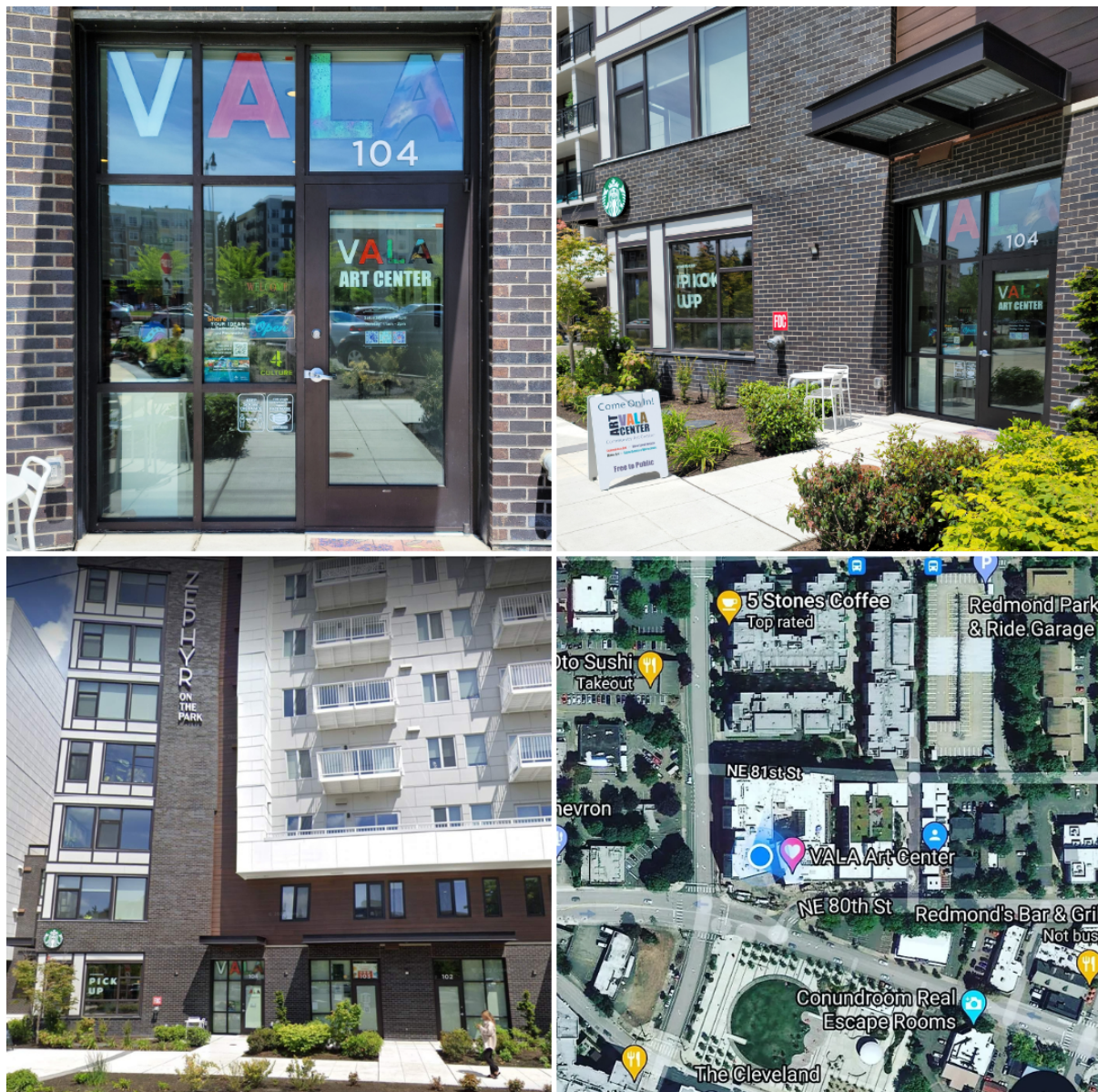
#### VALA Eastside Recognized During Arts and Humanities Month

For Participation in Downtown  
On October 2nd, 2023.

On October 2, in recognition of Arts and Humanities month, the City of Redmond acknowledged VALA Eastside and artist Arvind\* Poothia (among other artists and downtown businesses) for their valuable contributions in supporting the arts in Redmond through their participation in the City's inaugural Downtown Redmond Art Walk.

\* Shown from left to right: Arvind Poothia, Laura Lee Bennett, and Crystal Edwards

## VALA Art Center Reopening Across from Downtown Park

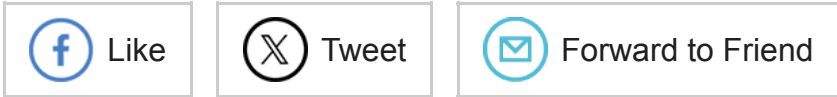


October 27th

After a temporary closure, VALA has now become sustainable, and has been able to completely take over the art center lease. Many thanks to those who donated funds, and who contributed volunteer hours to make this happen! We appreciate your support, and we ask for your continued support to keep us going.

We look forward to seeing you this October and into the New Year! Stay tuned for artist calls, themed exhibits and art receptions, art-making workshops, artist chats, poetry workshops, spoken word performances, and much more!

\* VALA, Venues for Artists in the Local Area, Eastside, is a 501c3, non-profit arts organization committed to connecting artists to artists, artists to the community, and the community to art.



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VALA Art Center location:  
8020 161st Avenue Northeast, #104  
Redmond, WA 98052

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