

AGENDA

Top 10 reasons to fill up your calendar this month

By KRIS VIRE



> CRITICAL COMEDY

In the new iO show *Satirical Race Theory*, an all-star team of Black improvisers sends up contemporary discourse around politics and culture. Catch it now, before Florida lawmakers figure out how to ban it. *Through July 1. ioimprov.com*

> BETWEEN THE LINES

San Francisco's Alonzo King Lines Ballet returns to the Harris Theater for the first time since 2015 with *Deep River*. The new evening-length piece is set to a score by jazz pianist Jason Moran that draws on Black spirituals. *May 5–6. harristheaterchicago.org*

> ASIAN CREATION

The inaugural APIDA Arts Festival highlights work by Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi or South Asian Americans. The three-day fest features both performances and hands-on workshops; most events are free but require advance registration. *May 5–7. apidaarts.org*

> DESIGN FOR LIVING

Get home decor inspo or just ogle some house porn at the *Lake Forest Showhouse & Gardens*, wherein teams of interior and landscape designers make over a stately suburban manor. The biennial event is a fundraiser for the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago. *May 6–June 4. lakeforestshowhouse.com*

> STORM'S A-BREWING

Playwright Joshua Allen's Chicago-set marriage story *The Last Pair of Earlies* marked a deeply moving return to the stage for Raven Theatre in 2021. *The October Storm*, Allen's follow-up about a multigenerational family on the South Side in the 1960s, should be on your radar. *May 11–June 25. raventheatre.com*

> TOON TOWN

Anime Central, billed as the Midwest's largest anime and manga convention, brings hordes of creators, retailers, and cosplaying fans of Japanese-inspired cartoons and comics to Rosemont's Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. *May 19–21. acen.org*

> WRIGHT ON TIME

Frank Lloyd Wright fans can gawk at the many Oak Park houses the architect designed anytime—from the outside. But during the *Wright Plus Housewalk*, you can tour the interiors of three FLW residences and five other historic homes. *May 20. flwright.org*

> MOLE FOR DAYS

An early entry in Chicago's summer street fair season, Pilsen's *Mole de Mayo Festival* celebrates a staple sauce of Mexican cuisine. In addition to food vendors plying their mole variations, look for two music stages and a lucha libre wrestling ring. *May 26–28. moledemayo.org*



> OUT OF THE WOODS

The Morton Arboretum is both the host and the materials supplier for *Of the Earth*, a new exhibition by Polish American artist Olga Ziemska, who creates dramatic, large-scale sculptures from reclaimed tree branches. *May 26–Spring 2025. mortonarb.org*

> SKY'S THE LIMIT

At age 21, *Hunter Hayes* became the youngest male solo act to top *Billboard's* country songs chart with his 2012 single "Wanted." Now he's following the lead of former tour mate Taylor Swift, embracing a poppier vibe on his latest album, *Red Sky*. Check out his new direction as Hayes plays the Vic. *May 30. jamusa.com*

