

SLUG MAG

EGAN WINT

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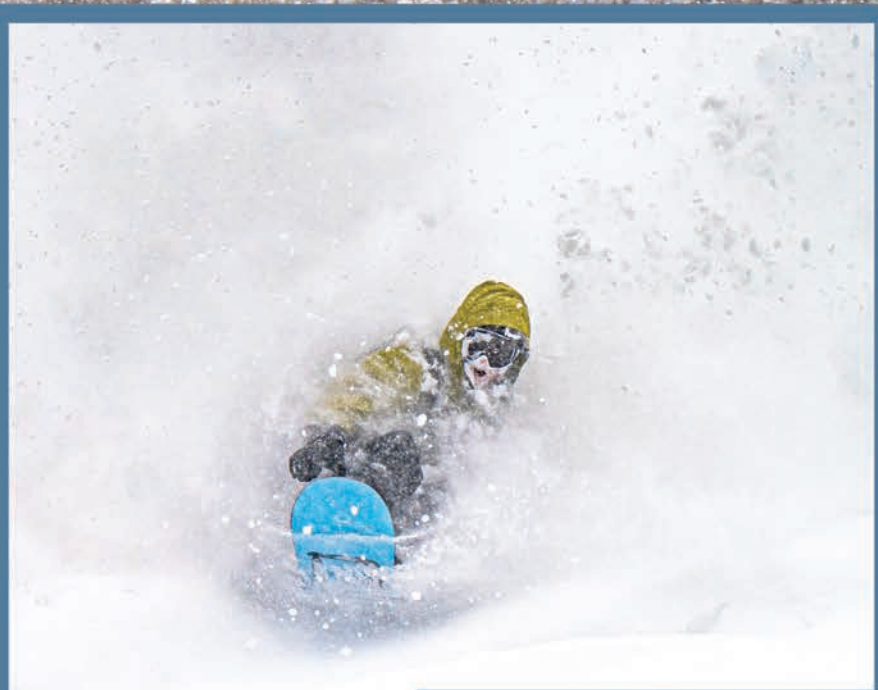
BOARDING IN THE BONE ZONE

LOCALIZED: STAND-UP COMEDY • KILBY COURT: 25TH ANNIVERSARY • LOCAL GIFT IDEAS





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ABOUT THE COVER: For our December issue, *SLUG* Contributing Photographer Jovvany Villalobos (@thevillagewolf) captures Egan Wint (@princess.menace) doing a 50-50 to Stale Fish at *The Bone Zone* in *Brighton Resort*. Read the full profile on the talented, local boarder on page 6.

Elle Cowley

Contributor Limelight
Editorial Intern



As an Editorial Intern, Copy Editor and Contributing Writer, Elle Cowley is an incredible asset to the *SLUG* team in more ways than one. Elle's keen eye for detail and discerning ear for local communities illuminates all of their work, from witty social media posts and whip-smart fact-checking to this month's food feature on page 28.

Eli Bye

Contributor Limelight
Distro Driver



An expert driver who knows his way around downtown SLC, Eli Bye has been slinging magazines to cool spots around the city for over a year. Since joining *SLUG*'s team of Distro Drivers in June 2022, Eli has been a regular purveyor of all things alternative and underground, spreading the word about *SLUG* to anyone who will listen!

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REDISCOVERING YOUR PASSION:

An Interview with Egan Wint

By Seth Turek | sethturek@gmail.com

Growing up in Denver, Egan Wint cut her teeth on the slopes of Colorado resorts starting at age six but eventually lost her passion for boarding in her teen years. Everything changed for Wint upon moving to Salt Lake a few years ago. The closer proximity to the mountains and the relaxed vibe of local ski culture reignited her love for boarding. As a digger at Brighton Resort, Wint spent a great deal of her time at Brighton's terrain park, *The Bone Zone*.

"I found my own community there," she says. Wint's biggest breakthrough came as Brighton's social media team started capturing her pulling tricks. She

says, "I not only progressed a lot, but I got comfortable in front of a camera."

Thanks to recognition from local, professional boarder Mike Rav, her popularity grew even further, garnering exposure that led to her current sponsorship deal with boardsports brand *Volcom*. Wint has since traveled all over the U.S. to compete with her snowboarding team *Dinosaurs Will Die*—an "epic company" she joined thanks to fellow rider and "main *Bone Zone* guy" Jeff Holce. Her favorite event in recent memory was a timed "film festival" where each team filmed tricks and made their own highlight reel. Events



The Bone Zone at Brighton helped to reignite Wint's love for boarding.

Wint at The Bone Zone pulling a textbook board slide.



Photos by Jovvany Villalobos

like this that encourage community collaboration have been far more fulfilling to Wint than the suffocating, Olympics-focused scene in Colorado.

Since moving to Utah, Wint's career has continued to take off. "I just got the Rookie of the Year award from [*Slush Magazine*] and I was feeling like I didn't know why they picked me," she says. "It all happened by accident." Anyone who has seen Wint snowboard knows that she has too much talent for her success to have been merely a happy accident. Keep up with Wint through her Instagram @princess.menace and read the full feature on Wint at SLUGMag.com.

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THE HEART OF SALT LAKE'S MUSIC SCENE

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF KILBY COURT

By Andrew Christiansen
 achristiansen01@gmail.com



The S&S team from L-R: Tom Petersen, Alisha Archibald, Haley Zelda, Lance Saunders, Dustin Turley, Riley Bode, Faye Barnhurst, Moriah Glazier, Nic Smith, Billy Eusterman, Taylor Lines, Chloe Monson and Elaine Sayer.

If you're at all involved in the Utah music scene, you know that *Kilby Court*—an intimate, all-ages venue not much bigger than a two-car garage—has been at the heart of it for a long time. For me, *Kilby* has been a second home since 2017, where I've seen over 100 shows. The shared enjoyment of raw, artistic expression has made me—and many others—feel closer to the Salt Lake music community. It's a place I can always rely on for happiness. As **Lance Saunders**, the co-founder of S&S Presents who owns *Kilby* and other local concert venues explains, "[*Kilby*] has been harboring a safe place for young locals to share their musical talents and art, along with national and international touring acts, and in turn, has created its own community and social network [over the past] 25 years."

Kilby was first established in 1999 as a DIY art and music gallery accessible to everyone. Since S&S took over in 2008, co-founder **Will Sartain** notes that *Kilby* has largely remained the same except for improvements here and there to their sound and ticketing system. "We have been very apprehensive to changing anything when it comes to *Kilby*," Saunders says. "The aesthetic is classic and it will always be a one-of-a-kind venue—the hidden and magical gem at the end of the alleyway."

Kilby's DIY-style atmosphere, with a capacity of 200, fosters a unique connection between artists and the audience, provid-

ing an authentic live music experience and a safe space for nurturing community bonding. S&S Ticketing Coordinator **Riley Bode** notes that one of *Kilby's* primary goals has always been to show local artists that someone has their back, and allow these musicians to share their talents. *Kilby* is renowned for hosting a mix of Utah-based artists as well as up-and-coming touring artists. Being a regular at *Kilby* often means recalling the most popular artists you saw "before they were big," which might include names such as **J.I.D.**, **Vampire Weekend** and **Mitski**.

Going forward, Sartain says S&S hopes to keep *Kilby* a space where any kind of artist can get their start. Whatever changes—big or little—happen in the next 25 years, Bode says local bands will always have a place at *Kilby*. "I think that *Kilby Court* wouldn't be *Kilby Court* without the local bands ... they help it keep that same energy and excitement it's always had," she says.

The biggest way S&S plans to celebrate *Kilby's* 25th anniversary and fulfill their long-term goals as a music organization is through the *5th Annual Kilby Block Party*, happening May 10–12, 2024 at the *Utah State Fairpark*. Since 2019, the annual event has become a nationally recognized, three-day music festival that showcases the best bands across the Beehive State as well as countless big-name artists such as **Phoebe Bridgers**, **Mac Demarco**, **The Strokes**, **Yeah Yeah Yeahs** and **Pixies**. Saunders says the

team learned a lot from last year's festival, which was the biggest they've had to date with over 20,000 people attending each day. "With the growth of *Kilby Block Party*, I think a lot of bigger touring artists who would have otherwise skipped Salt Lake City aren't doing that as often now," says S&S Local Talent Buyer **Moriah Glazier**.

Considering the success of the last two festivals, S&S is well on its way to what Sartain says is their end goal: creating a large-scale music festival that is both financially stable and hugely important to Salt Lake. For the 2024 festival, the S&S team plans to announce their lineup on Dec. 5, which they note will offer bigger, on-site fan and artist experiences. "We executed a fun and safe festival [in 2023], and we learned a few things. We're excited to put everything we learned into [2024]'s fest," Saunders says.

When people think back to their unforgettable experiences at *Kilby Block Party*—when Utah finally established a true-to-form music festival—they'll also think back to their first *Kilby Court* experience. "Tons of people went to their first show at *Kilby*, and it felt like they found their own little secret hidden down this dark alley," S&S Talent Buyer **Faye Barnhurst** says. "It's our venue. It feels like it belongs to everyone in Salt Lake."

Read the full article online at SLUGMag.com.

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LOCAL GIFT IDEAS

For the Crust-Punk Skater with a Big Heart and Even Bigger Pants

By Vashti Hansen • hansenvashti@gmail.com
Photos by Abel Cayas

You get off work and hear your phone ring—it's them. They wanna know if you're still down to practice heel flips and crush Uinta 801s outside the old *Home Depot*. Somehow they have two jobs, all the time in the world and plenty of income. You wouldn't trade their friendship for anything. Here are three places for finding unique gifts for the tireless scamp in your life to round out their burnout steeze.



Illustration: Brighton Ballard

Borosyndicate



Evan Ballance

Carrying Salt Lake's most diverse selection of water pipes, bubblers and more, *Borosyndicate* is the ideal place to shop for high-quality glass for the skate punk in your life. **Kenny Holladay** and **Evan Ballance** opened their unique shop in the early 2000s and as of Dec. '23 will have two locations. Bringing American-made glass to the community, *Borosyndicate* boasts eccentric items such as pineapple-shaped pipes, flamingo-shaped bowls and even an elephant bubbler. *Borosyndicate* also creates specialized pieces by request and carries highly sought after water pipes made by **Sovereignty Glass**, **Mothership Glass**, **Toro Glass** and more.

Fostering relationships with others in the business, *Borosyndicate* features

one-of-a-kind pieces by local glass blowing masters including **Eusheen**, **Darby Holm** and **Peter Muller**. *Boro* is happy to help with any product-related questions and also offers repairs and carries cleaning supplies. Holladay's and Ballance's favorite product is the Mothership Expo paired with a Highly Educated control tower (\$379.99)—this combo creates the perfect temperature, making it easier for oil to evaporate and creating the perfect dab. Considering favorite designs, Holladay "recommend[s] this specially made glass skateboard with this matching glass pendant that we made." *Boro* will be ready to showcase some of their more tucked-away items to the Salt Lake community when they open their new location in Murray on Dec. 1.

60 Exchange Place, SLC, UT | 4644 South 160 West Murray |
Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. | Sun. 12-8 p.m. | borosyndicate.com

Provo's *3hive Record Lounge* is dedicated to the art and future of music. Manager **Tyler Sade** describes the store as a community for those passionate about music or who want to get into music. While owner **Sam Cannon** started *3hive* as a music blog and gradually grew it into selling records at its brick-and-mortar location, he is proud of the growth they have achieved. "He fondly calls it his 'mid-life crisis' store, but, in all honesty, the store is an impressive culmination of a lifetime of passion that Sam has had for music and for records," says Sade.

Five years in, *3hive* boasts a massive selection of records, cassettes and all of the tools needed to enjoy listening to music. For record player owners,

3hive offers essential items including slip mats, record-cleaning kits and record sleeves. You can browse *3hive's* website to see what type of music they have in stock. If they don't have what you're looking for, you can request it online from their warehouse. They even carry signed records alongside special merch from musicians.

3hive also carries unique items ranging from action figures to locally designed trinkets. Their **Czarface** lunch boxes, which come with a cassette and a pack of exclusive trading cards, are a hit. Some perfect stocking stuffers are their key chains, stickers or hip-hop trading cards, all created by **Leo Carreo**. Check them out on Instagram @*3hive* for more.

3hive Record Lounge



50 E 500 N #105, Provo, UT | Mon.-Sat. 12-8 p.m. | shop.3hive.com

Founded in 1998, *Uprok* has since been home to Salt Lake's hip-hop scene and graffiti artists. Created as a safe place for those who want to artistically express themselves, *Uprok* has blossomed into Salt Lake's largest supplier of street art materials. Owner **Cameron Mason** grew up going to *Uprok* and eventually purchased the store during COVID-19 to keep it alive. Now approaching their 25th anniversary, *Uprok* is known for their diverse selection of graffiti necessities, ranging from calligraphy markers to water-based spray paint, most of which are also refillable at the store.

They also carry unique clothing created by local artists. "We had a friend named **Animal** who was a famous

graffiti artist," says Mason. "He had a pet crocodile, so we created a hat with a crocodile design to pay homage when he passed away." Their selection includes basketball shorts, hoodies and t-shirts, all sporting unique designs. *Uprok* also recently partnered with headwear line **New Era Cap Co.** to create one-of-a-kind hats.

After browsing, customers can hit the back of the store for a haircut from the in-store barbershop or bust some moves in their hip-hop studio. *Uprok's* friendly atmosphere is just one of the many reasons to stop in—make sure to bring a friend to check out the hanging art and store merch, and don't forget to add your tag to their graffiti wall. Check them out on Instagram @*uprokshop*.

Uprok



1594 S State St, SLC, UT | Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. | uprokslc.com

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LOCAL GIFT IDEAS

For the Caffeinated Creative with Clay-Caked Nails

By Libby Leonard • laleonardwrites@gmail.com
Photos by Jess Gruneisen

Holiday season is upon us and you find yourself nervously sweating the anticipation of finding a suitable present for the crafty artist in your life who is a frustratingly thoughtful gift giver. What could you possibly gift the person who hand-makes everything they need? Luckily, *SLUG* has rounded up a number of local spots that are sure to impress your local creative. From ceramic workshops to cutesy trinkets or hot drink blends that allow them to pull all-nighters, SLC is stocked with artistic goodies aplenty.



Illustration: Brighton Ballard

If you stop by the downtown artists' boutique *Atelier* this winter, you're sure to experience something magical. The neighborhood domesticated squirrel that visits co-owners **Olivia Henrie** and **Malinda Fisher** may be in hibernation, but twee holiday charm exists in loaded cheekfuls. *Atelier* is one part studio, one part storefront and two parts pure delight.

must—complete the vibes with ceramic dinnerware, handcrafted pottery mugs and stained-glass suncatchers. Other store selections include unique jewelry, colorful greeting cards, vintage clothing and more.

Upon entering, you'll be sure to get a whiff of what Fisher describes as "forest, moss and flowers." That's their in-house signature candle, *Atelier Smells*, which is one of several artisan-crafted candles (\$20–50) that pair perfectly with their candlestick holders, some of which are crafted by Henrie. For artists in their Bacchus era, a candle-studded tablescape is a

This holiday season will be *Atelier's* last in their current space as they'll be moving next door in the new year. Henrie and Fisher will be embracing *Atelier* holiday traditions, saying "we go all out and decorate as much as we can." Each week in December, *Atelier* features an artist pop-up table, and stock up on holiday decor such as knit mushrooms, stained glass and food-themed ornaments. Stop by the store so Henrie and Fisher can wrap your gifts in their lovely in-house style, complete with dried flowers.

337 Pierpont Ave, SLC, UT | Mon.–Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m.,
Sun. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. | atelierslc.com

Atelier



Kings Peak Coffee Roasters



At *Kings Peak Coffee Roasters*, located inside the *Bogue Foundry* historic building, owners **Garland** and **Brandy Ledbetter** are dedicated to high quality and ethically-sourced specialty-grade coffee. "We do everything here by hand," Garland says. The Ledbetters say the best gift is being inspired, and any good painter, potter or poet would agree that there is always something new to try at *Kings Peak*. Garland recommends either of their two Costa Rican Geisha coffees, saying "I like very fruit-forward coffees with floral notes."

Other popular coffees include the Timpanogos Espresso and Blacks Fork Ridge blends, both of which have unique, fruity tasting notes and can be purchased individually for \$16. Give

the creative in your life the gift of ritual and convenience with ceramic mug gift bundles (starting at \$28) or brewing equipment such as pour-over kits (starting at \$26) and hand grinders (starting at \$39.95).

Brandy suggests experimenting with *Kings Peak's* hand-crafted festive syrups such as salted maple sage or gingerbread cookie. While you're there, check out Utah-based musician **Adam Michael Terry's** *Elevator Jazz Shop* inside the store, featuring curated vintage records, cassettes, books and button pins to suit eclectics and collectors alike. Creatives thrive on textures of sensory experience, so layer up on inspiration this season with uniquely crafted *Kings Peak* brews and the rich tones of vintage jazz records.

412 S 700 W Suite 140, SLC, UT | Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-2 p.m.,
Sat.-Sun. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. | kingspeakcoffee.com



Art studio *Workshop SLC* is dedicated to building a community for creators of all kinds, including LGBTQ+, disabled and BIPOC artists. Owner **Lucia Murdock** wants to establish Salt Lake City as a city of art. She brings world-renowned artists into the studio and ensures that they bring world-class skills to their students. *Workshop SLC's* current artist-in-residence is Brazilian-born abstract artist and sculpturist **Samantha da Silva**.

Murdock is originally from Guadalajara, Mexico, where she studied digital art and built a career across various galleries and museums. Upon moving to SLC, Murdock saw that a space like *Workshop SLC* didn't exist, and she's spent the last five years working hard to bring her vision to fruition. She says

that she is honored to be able to offer valuable skills and careers to local and living artists.

Workshop SLC provides flexible schedules for beginner to advanced courses in a variety of fine art disciplines. Popular courses include painting, drawing and pottery; *Workshop SLC* also caters to ad-hoc workshops and private events. This December, instructors are offering special workshops in ornament making, watercolor greeting cards and wrapping paper design. Course structures vary and allow artists to work at their own pace. In January, a new three-month semester begins at *Workshop SLC*—Murdock says that gift cards are a great way to give the artist in your life the opportunity to try out a new skill.

153 W 2100 S Expy, South Salt Lake, UT | Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.,
Sat. 12-6 p.m. | workshopslc.com

Workshop SLC



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LOCAL GIFT IDEAS

For the Main Character who Always Crits on their Wisdom Saving Throw

By Alton Barnhart • altonboy2009@gmail.com
Photos by Chay Mosqueda

In a city ravaged by frigid tundra, the inevitable holiday festivities have come creeping in to take control once again. Through these trying times, a hero must rise to purchase the greatest nerd paraphernalia for the geekiest of their friends and family! Vanquish the Amazon overlords and shop locally this season at some of SLC's best gamer hotspots. If you're in the market for trading cards, comic books or tabletop gaming gear, these mythical emporiums come bearing gifts. Adventure awaits!



Illustration: Brighton Ballard

The warm glow of *The Legendarium* invites patrons to a day of escape and wonder. Its cottage-core aura provides a world of acceptance which is exactly what siblings and LGBTQ+ owners **Orion Enceladus** and **Raelle Westwind** aim to do. "Primarily, we are a safe and inclusive space ... we've put a lot of heart in the [bookstore's] detail," says Enceladus. Having been open for merely a year, *The Legendarium*—as a joint bookstore and RPG cafe—stands as an ideal place to daydream and role play.

First-timers to the store will likely feel enchanted by the main entrance that spirals into bookshelves (and even fireplaces) full of books, but the good folks at *The Legendarium* offer to be your literary guide. As personal

picks, Enceladus suggests *Legends and Lattes* (\$17.99), a fantasy starter about an orc who ditches their barbaric past for baristas. For science fiction, Westwind picks *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet* (\$19.99)—a galactic epic on social commentary. Westwind says that the book, "stretches your mind in ways that just reading a story about the current day might be hard to do."

If you're still racking your brain on whether to buy their books, tarot cards or gaming gear, *The Legendarium* also supplies gift baskets (\$30–150) that can cover gifting essentials. No amount of care and personality will be found in a regular Amazon purchase, so go to the place that brings spirit. Just look for the severed dragon head out front.

349 E 900 S, SLC, UT | Tues., Thurs., Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun. 12–4 p.m. | legendariumbooks.com

The Legendarium



Orion Enceladus



Dragon's Keep



Since the 1980s, the mythical and quaint emporium *Dragon's Keep* has steadily built a reputation for shelling out tabletop games and trading cards. With four Utah County stores under their belt, it's their Lehi location that brings the basement aesthetic that's inspired young "dungeon masters" for the last 40 years. "As a fat, nerdy kid growing up in the '80s, I had nowhere [I felt I belonged] but a gaming store," General Manager **Jeff Dodge** says. *Dragon's Keep* is a little nook providing a space for anyone, no matter how avid a role player you are.

For those wanting to sink their teeth into the gaming world, Dodge says the best gift to start with is trading cards because you can buy boxes

upon boxes. "If you buy a board game, you're only buying one copy," he says. *Dragon's Keep* holds a plethora of big names including *Pokémon*, *One Piece*, *Yu-Gi-Oh!* and, coming soon, *Disney's Lorcana*. Dive in with booster boxes (\$20–50) or opt for a single 10-card deck (\$4–10); either way *Dragon's Keep* has you covered!

Dragon's Keep tries to stay away from anything too exclusive—think less collectibles and more "everything you need." It's these little items such as their many-sided dice (\$2.05) at the front counter or their abundance of tabletop figurines that lets patrons know they care. Just like a traveling merchant from *Dungeons & Dragons* or *Magic: The Gathering*, *Dragon's Keep* is here to bear its many wares.

189 E State St, Lehi, UT | Mon.–Thurs., Sat. 11 a.m.–10 p.m.,
Fri. 11 a.m.–11 p.m. | dragonskeep.com

Dr. Volt's Comic Connection



Jeff Bell

In a vast galaxy of multiverses and overlapping continuity errors, it's hard to find a good comic book series. Fortunately, the shiny beacon of *Dr. Volt's Comic Connection* has come to save the day. This geeky hub has been supplying SLC with the best in comic books since the late '80s when professional-wrestler-turned-business-owner **Dr. Volt** opened it in Millcreek. Now under the ownership of **Charles Prows**, the spirit of *Dr. Volt's* continues to welcome eager comic customers. Whether you're looking for major names such as *Marvel* or *DC Comics* or seeking to expand through indie publishers like *Mad Cave Studios* or *Dark Horse*, *Dr. Volt's* comes strapped.

Their wide selection of comics offers picks for intense readers like myself

who might load up on complete lore-building omnibuses such as *The Walking Dead* (\$32.99) or *King Tank Girl* (\$17.99). For the average comic collector, you could get a deal on the new *Rorschach #4* (\$4.99) or, for the kids, *Looney Toons* (\$2.99) is a great throwback. Perhaps you could take out a mortgage to purchase the sealed-behind-glass first edition of *X-Men* (\$15,999.99).

At a mecca like *Dr. Volt's*, they understand that comics are the best present for both avid and first time readers. "It's literature and high art," says Manager **Jeff Bell**. "Honestly, [comic books] transcend two different art forms working together in collaboration to tell a story." Find more info on Instagram @drvoltscomics.

2043 E 3300 S, Millcreek, UT | Mon.–Tues., Thurs.–Fri. 12–7 p.m., Wed. 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 12–5 p.m. | drvolts.com



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LOCAL GIFT IDEAS

For the Mystical Healer who Reads Tarot and Talks to Plants

By Sophie Caligiuri • sophiecali7@gmail.com
Photos by Ashley Christenson

You certainly wouldn't know it at first glance, but Salt Lake City holds a litany of gifts for your local witch and healer. Sacred symbols and sweet reprieves can be found right here in the valley with bubbles, botany and mystic baubles aplenty waiting for their next worthy owner. Come in closer, pull back the curtain and find three local harbors outfitted with any gifts you may need to celebrate the inauguration of winter with those who have you spellbound.



Illustration: Brighton Ballard

Any local witch who is worth their salt knows *Crone's Hollow* is the foremost galleria of witchy-goodness. Owned by practicing pagans from various local covens, the shop is home to enchanting splendors for every mage, from the curious to the learned to the local legend. Filled to the cauldron's brim with various statuettes, crystals, tarot cards, books, hand-crafted incense and more, *Crone's Hollow* boasts an assortment of affordable gifts perfect for any loved ones who could use some Yuletide cheer.

Offering classes, psychic/medium readings, custom-crafted spell candles and year-round guidance, this downtown storefront also holds bustling opportunities for non-traditional, experience-oriented gifts.

If Store Manager **Durriken Homewood** could let Salt Lake residents know one thing about the local pagan community, it would simply and powerfully be: "We're here."

If you find that you're behind on accumulating treasures for those near and dear this winter solstice, simply venture southbound on Main Street and let the warm, lightly scented threshold of *Crone's Hollow* welcome you to a world of gifts you may have otherwise overlooked. You name it, they have it. As wintertime is the season of giving, *Crone's Hollow* also donates all money offered at the feet of their deity statues. Previous recipients of their blessed donations have included *The Trevor Project* and the local unhoused community.

Crone's Hollow



3834 S Main St, SLC, UT | Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. | croneshollow.com

Orchid Dynasty



As “purveyors of photosynthetic carbon-based lifeforms,” *Orchid Dynasty* is a mom-and-pop oasis nestled downtown. It’s no secret that blossoms and foliage are intrinsic to many spiritual practices, and from the everyday to the downright strange, *Orchid Dynasty* is guaranteed to have an orchid (starting at \$40) or exotic plant (starting at \$25) to suit any season’s greeting.

Owned by couple **Clinton Lewis and Shelly Huynh**, *Orchid Dynasty* enchants customers with tropical plant life and gorgeous, in-house floral arrangements. Aiming to blend Western and Eastern practices and philosophies, it’s a unique shop of wonders, and an obvious emporium for any magic incanters or crafters.

365 W 900 S, SLC, UT | Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. | orchiddynasty.com

If your loved one suffers from lack of a green thumb, fear not. Each purchase made at this one-stop garden shop includes educational cards specially curated for each species that even the most forgetful witch can easily employ. Lewis and Huynh also operate a phone number that any customer can text with pictures of their sick or downtrodden specimen to receive advice. The *Orchid Dynasty* staff’s intense knowledge and reverence for the botanical creatures they care for can only be classified as one thing: magic. So, stop in, stay awhile, and enjoy the shop’s copious gifting opportunities, including plants, build-your-own seasonal bouquets, pots, cards, trinkets and more just waiting to enter any witch’s home.

Renourish Kombucha Tap Room



A bubbling potion composed of locally-sourced spices, herbs, fruit and flora, kombucha is a great gift fit for any witching hour rendezvous. Owned and operated by **Raquel Speroni**, *Renourish Kombucha Tap Room* is a sweet Sugar House haven, stocked with seven frothy, fruity local brews on tap. The wide-ranging health benefits of kombucha transcend its reputation as a happy-hour glass of tea and launches the brew straight into the elixir category. Each glass is swimming with gut-healthy probiotics, aiding digestion with every tiny sip. If you have a loved one who is just starting to hone their craft, share with them the capabilities of kombucha to ensure that their energy and health is reserved for their magic.

Renourish Tap Room offers flavor staples year-round, from the classic lemon ginger to the ever-popular *Han’s Kombucha* “Cheers Queers” white peach champagne flavor, as well as rotating seasonal selections such as their crisp apple chai. Their most recent addition is local maker *LOCOCO Hot Cocoa*, packed with good-for-you ingredients.

Each kombucha is sourced from Utah or Idaho-based brewers, guaranteeing dazzling quality while aiding local practitioners. With gift cards, vinegar tonics, health supplements, bottled offerings and reusable growlers just waiting to be filled with the delectable, amber ambrosia, *Renourish* is sure to be a crowd pleaser for even the pickiest of witches.

1314 S 500 E Ste 100A, SLC | Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 12 a.m.–5 p.m. | renourishtaproom.com

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SLUG LOCALIZED:

STAND-UP COMEDY SHOWCASE

By Sam D'Antuono • sam.dantuono@gmail.com || Photos by John Barkiple

I feel very fortunate when I get to do shows with a talented bunch of comedians, many of which I call my friends. I usually treat these interviews as a time to get to know the people I see most frequently but never seem to chat with beyond hearing their jokes. Most of the evening was spent playing a little pool, talking shop and recalling early memories in the comedy scene. As a comedian myself, it was comforting to hear that we all experienced similar moments of realization when it came to discovering our love for comedy. **Tré Lamb, Tanner Nicholson, Hollie Jay** and **Michael Davis** will perform at *Urban Lounge* on Thursday, December 21 for a



TANNER NICHOLSON

hilarious edition of *SLUG Localized*, sponsored by *Riso-Geist* and hosted by me. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m.

I met with three of the four comedians at the downtown bar *Johnny's SLC*. Davis, our sweet, Southern-monotoned belle, was away visiting family. The bar is where Nicholson spends most of his nights making drinks, cracking jokes and dealing with the overly intoxicated patron from time to time. It's a bar that I've spent many a weekday night in. Under the low lights, the din of rock music blaring over the jukebox and the consistent beeps of credit card machines, *Johnny's* provided a cozy and slightly damp atmosphere to talk to the comedians about their craft. Though Davis was out of town, local comedy favorite and renowned pedophile hunter **Collin Shumaker** tagged along with Lamb, mostly to tease Lamb about his answers to the interview questions. When I asked about everyone's favorite comedians, Lamb named **Patton Oswalt's** older material, and Schumaker made a face. "Get over yourself, trying to get in on this interview," Lamb replied. "Thinking he'll fuckin' write you up in there!"

From the time he was a teenager, Lamb loved stand-up. He performed his first set while still in high school at a mixed open mic consisting of mostly poetry and music. Lamb would constantly get kicked out of bars when trying to get in to do stand-up, but he persevered nonetheless. Comedians, to Lamb, are like rockstars. "They just seemed so cool," he says. He loved "the idea that you could go into a room with hundreds or thousands of people and be 'the guy' for a



TRÉ LAMB

little while, and then go out into the world and you're just nobody again."

Lamb first established his comedy roots in Canada before moving to Los Angeles to pursue his dreams there. After relocating again from L.A. to Utah, Lamb truly began to thrive here in Salt Lake. He's accumulated a significant online presence, boasting over 90,000 followers on Instagram where he posts weekly stand-up clips. With the influx of followers came an increase in shows and bookings, taking Lamb across the country for gigs. "I just want to tour," he says. "I want to never be home, and be on the road. Stand-up is it, baby." Lamb can be found making people laugh at *Wiseguys Comedy Club* most weekends. He has shared the stage with names such as **Trevor Wallace** and **Bryan Callen**, and he also hosts the *Deadbeat Son* podcast. Be sure to keep up with



HOLLIE JAY

Lamb and check out his stand-up clips on his Instagram [@trejlamb](#).

Jay has become a staple in the Salt Lake comedy scene over the past several years, from producing and hosting open mics, showcases and the occasional roast battle at *Ice Haus* in Murray, to hosting and curating an all-female comedy festival, *The Funny Femme Fatale Festival*. She got her start at *Comic Con* in 2016 when she happened to meet another local-favorite-turned-*Comedy-Store*-regular **Jackson Banks**, who told her she should try an open mic. That first open mic was hosted by yours truly at the old *Ditta Caffé* in Millcreek. Jay has a style of comedy that could be described as dark and dirty. In response, Jay says, "It's dark and dirty for sure, pretty alt and feminist too, but in a way I think most people can enjoy."

When it really comes down to it, Jay says, "I'm just telling jokes." She has worked with names such as **Skyler Higley** and **Jordan Thewlis**. You can hear more from Hollie Jay on the *Dirty Doves* podcast with her co-host and fellow comedian **Donnie Bonelli**. Follow her on Instagram [@cultclassicqueen](#) for more show updates.

Nicholson has been doing stand-up for nine years and is one of the most well known names in Salt Lake comedy. Nicholson has performed at *Localized* before, and with good

reason, he is back. Having a long family history in Ohio, he is a diehard *Ohio State* fan, tattooed with their logo and often seen wearing the team's merch. "The first stand-up special I ever saw was *Eddie Murphy Raw*," he says. "I think I was like 10 years old. That doesn't stand up to the test of time—there's like 20 minutes they wouldn't air [now]—but the rest of it is still fuckin' funny. I make fun of my dad a lot [in my material], like him."

One of my favorite things about Nicholson's comedy is his stories. From topics and tales relating to bars, correctional facilities, family and recently traveling abroad, he never fails to keep me riveted. We all have dreams when it comes to doing stand-up. Some people want to play *Madison Square Garden*, some just want to have fun. Nicholson wants to bring everyone with him, whatever that might look like. "It just depends on what I'm watching lately. Doing a sketch show with your funny friends would be the shit, and gettin' paid to do it, that'd be dope. That's the dream," he says. You can follow Nicholson for show dates and more on his Instagram [@funnymanntann](#).

Even though Davis wasn't at the initial interview, I was able to score a charming one-on-one interview with him later. Davis began his comedy career in Missouri at the *Funny Bone* open mic in St. Louis before moving to Utah four years ago. One of the funniest voices in the Salt Lake scene, he would describe his stand up as "dry, deadpan and vulnerable ... make sure you say vulnerable like three times in the article."

Davis began to love stand-up from a young age. "When I was in high school, stand-up helped me laugh when it was hard to laugh," he says. "That's what I want to do for other people." Part of the fun of stand-up can be the bad shows, and when you're first getting started, those shows are frequent. Often the sentence "and we got paid" is surprising postscript to any story about an early-career show, bad or good. We talked about good and bad shows for a bit. Davis' stance on hecklers, the people usually responsible for souring a show, is that "people know not to come for the king," he says.

Davis' dream gig would be headlining *The Pageant* in St. Louis, Missouri the first place he ever watched live comedy. If he can't do that then his next dream project is to be "alive in a week."

In addition to performing at *Localized*, Davis will also be headlining the *Rickles Room* at *Wiseguys* on January 13. He has had chlamydia twice and you can follow him on Instagram [@allen_michael_davis](#).



MICHAEL DAVIS

Photo courtesy of Michael Davis

Lost Acorn Gallery: For Anyone With Something to Share

By Lina Boyer • lina.boyer22@gmail.com



Since 2021, Parker Thompson (left) and Mitchell Harned (right) have made Lost Acorn Gallery a place for digital art, graffiti, painting, dancing and anything else the community can dream of.

Unbeknownst to most Utahns, the Avenues neighborhood was recently host to one of the most prolific squirrel hotels in the state. Rodents across the region favored it as a top-tier nut storage facility with enough beds to sleep the whole family. That is until Mitchell Harned and Parker Thompson took over the establishment in 2021. Since then, it's been transformed into something a bit more human-centric: an art gallery.

"When we moved in ... we remodeled everything," Harned says. "In every crevice everywhere there was squirrel debris, whether that be insulation or nuts or who the heck knows. So, we make the joke that there's always a lost acorn somewhere."

While its former patrons may be disappointed at the change in management, *Lost Acorn Gallery* has a lot to offer the bipedal community. The two longtime friends originally purchased the space as a glass-blowing studio for Harned's own work, a craft he's been mastering since he visited a glass factory as a teenager. "My lizard brain said, 'This is what we're doing for the rest of our life,'" Harned says.

For the gallery's first year, glass was the main attraction of their business—from creating and selling glass art to offering classes for anyone curious to learn about the medium. At the same time, however, some of their more controversial products posed difficult to sell without the right licenses. "I just make the pipes," Harned points out. "What you choose to do with them afterward is none of my business." Soon enough, a new idea for the space emerged spontaneously. "One day, a friend knocked on the door and asked if we did events. We said, 'sure,'" Harned says.

That event, a movie premiere from local snowboarding company *Chimera Backcountry Snowboards*, was the start of what *Lost Acorn* has become: a community gallery for anyone with something artistic and creative to share. For many artists, whether established or just start-

ing out, finding a space to showcase one's work can be a near-impossible task. Affording a space is a whole other obstacle that Harned and Thompson hope to break down.

"This was a place where people that had no experience, no gallery training, no nothing could just come in and show off," Harned says. "I just wanted it to be a place where people felt like they were welcome to be weird and quirky artists, because that's what Salt Lake is full of."

While neither had previous experience running a public gallery, they've found it to be a rewarding challenge and an opportunity to meet many new local artisans. "I love that it's a lot of little people who don't have a big name here," Harned says. "Love, love, love putting people on that have never gotten to show off in a place. The smile, the goofiness, the showing off to your parents like that."

Whether it's digital art, graffiti, painting, dancing or anything else

you could dream of, *Lost Acorn* has a space for it. *Lost Acorn Gallery* offers free shows on Tuesdays, where artists have the chance to walk in with their art and share it that night, as well as the possibility to book the space on Friday evenings for a private exhibit. All you have to do is knock on their door or send a message. "If it fits, and we can do it, we'll absolutely do it," Harned says.

The glass-blowing studio is still going strong at *Lost Acorn Gallery*, along with Harned's goal to share his craft with the community. If you've ever been curious about the art of making stained glass, fused pendants or marbles, classes are available to book through their website for any skill level.

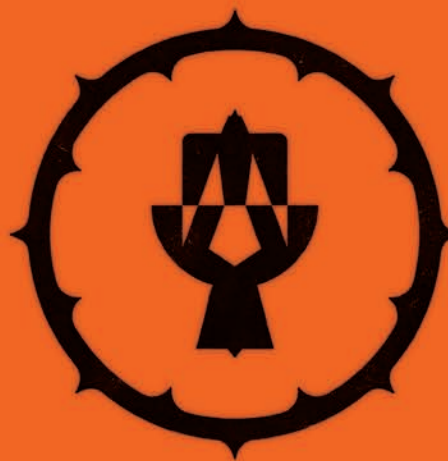
"They're becoming fewer and farther between, these weird little spots," Harned says, but *Lost Acorn* is truly a weird little spot worth preserving. Keep up with *Lost Acorn* at their website listed below or on their Instagram @lostacorngallery.

752 E 6th Ave, Salt Lake City, UT
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801.810.5549 | bio.site/lostacorn



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THE ULTIMATE FOODIE GIFT GUIDE

FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD HIVE By Elle Cowley • ellecowley003@gmail.com

Are you feeling overwhelmed by holiday shopping and unsure of where to find a gift for the picky foodie in your life? *The Neighborhood Hive* is sure to provide a local gift for everyone on your list. **Jennifer Williamson** and **Tiffany Rainwater**, co-owners of the local market, created the space for small businesses to sell their wares and find a customer base. "Every shelf is a different business," Rainwater says. "[Businesses] can rent a shelf or a whole rack like Mim's [Bakery] or a bigger space on the floor depending on what their business model needs." With Williamson and Rainwater's help, *SLUG* has compiled a list of some of the greatest edible products you can pick up from *The Neighborhood Hive* this season. Find the full list of 10 recommended gifts on SLUGMag.com.



The Bean Whole Sugarhive Blend (\$14.99)

Peeking through one of *The Hive's* windows, you can watch The Bean Whole roast their coffee in-house. Starting from small batches at home and moving into a permanent location in *The Neighborhood Hive*, The Bean Whole sells their coffee by the bag and at *The Hive's* coffee bar. The perfect gift for any coffee lover, there's nothing fresher than a bag of beans roasted in-store. Try out their house blend with notes of sweet fruit, citrus and brown sugar! Check them out on Instagram [@thebeanwhole](https://www.instagram.com/thebeanwhole).



Salsa Del Diablo Kitchen Sink Hot Sauce (\$8)

Looking for something for the spice lover in your life? Pick up a bottle of Salsa Del Diablo! Their Kitchen Sink Hot Sauce blends Carolina Reaper, Trinidad Scorpion and ghost peppers. Local honey and spices help to dial up the heat and add a sweet flair as well. This mixture is perfect for anyone on your list who puts hot sauce on absolutely everything. Follow them on Instagram [@salsadeldiablo](https://www.instagram.com/salsadeldiablo)!



Mim's Bakery Sourdough (\$13)

Delivered fresh to *The Neighborhood Hive* daily from Tuesday-Saturday, a loaf of high-quality, local bread is sure to make a great addition to any holiday spread. Mim's Bakery bread is the perfect gift for any carb lover and can be found on cafe menus around Salt Lake such as *Old Cuss*, *The Rose Establishment* and more. Pair it with jam, butter or just enjoy a slice plain! Look out for their bread truck (coming soon!) and follow along with them on Instagram [@mims_slc](https://www.instagram.com/mims_slc).



Dough Lady Take & Bake Cinnamon Rolls (\$18)

Look out for the Dough Lady's Take & Bake Cinnamon Rolls in one of the refrigerated cases at *The Neighborhood Hive*. Simply grab a tray—which includes the rolls, frosting and cream—and you're all set for an unforgettable holiday breakfast or brunch. Offering classic cinnamon, brown butter and chai flavors, a delicious treat is only a 30-minute bake away. Look out for new flavors on their Instagram [@doughladysl](https://www.instagram.com/doughladysl).



Drømme Calm (\$38)

Bringing a little bit of Europe to the Wasatch Front, Drømme's blend of brain-boosting adaptogens, botanicals and nootropics will leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. For those who are sober or sober-curious, Drømme is zero-proof and great for non-alcoholic drinks! Their Calm blend of ginger, melon and maple will delight any mocktail enthusiast. Find them on Instagram [@drinkdromme](https://www.instagram.com/drinkdromme).

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LOW TICKETS Harbour 12.05
 Chegoya 12.06
 The Snowball 12.08
LOW TICKETS Cattle Decapitation 12.09
LOW TICKETS Southall 12.12
 Genderfuq Fuqxxmas 12.13
 Transmitter 12.14
 Friendsmas Eve: A Punk Rock X-Mas 12.15
 Birth-Tay Par-Tay (Taylor Swift Night) 12.16
 SLUG Localized: Comedy 12.21
 Iceburn 12.22
 'Twas The Night Before The Night Before Christmas 12.23
 Uma Fuzz 12.27
 Doomcupcake 12.28
 Cut Chemist 12.29
 NYE 2023 ft. Flash & Flare / Jesse Walker 12.31
 Dubwise ft. Djunya + illoom + TBA 01.05
 Los Vii 01.06
 Neil Hamburger 01.09
 Silke 01.10
 Jack And The Fun-Guys 01.11
 RILE 01.12
 Buck Meek 01.26

METRO MUSIC HALL

Rosegarden Funeral Party 12.01
 JRC BDAY BASH FEAT. JUJUBEE 12.01
 Extortionist 12.02
 SLACKERS 12.05
 Marrio Suzzanne And the Galaxy Band 12.07
 Admitted Bastard 12.08
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.09
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.10
 Marrio Suzzanne And the Galaxy Band 12.14
 Holiday Spectacular: Utica 12.15
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.16
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.17
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.22
 Jolly Holiday DIVA Show! 12.23
 New Years Eve With The DIVASI! 12.31
 Bermuda 01.04
 The Pharcyde 01.06
 Leatham 01.11
 No Quarter (Led Zeppelin Tribute) 01.13
 Wiley From Atlanta 01.17
 Gagg Nancy 01.18
 Emo Night Tour 01.19
 Leather Strip 01.25
 Marrio Suzzanne And The Galaxy Band 01.26
 Samba Queen Contest 01.27
 The Delta Bombers / The Goddamn Gallows 02.08



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