Things to Do in Philadelphia the Weekend of October 8-10

49 Things to Do in Philadelphia This Weekend

From the Harvest Weekend at Dilworth Park to violinist Damien Escobar to comedian Margaret Cho, here’s how to fill your weekend.

by PATRICK RAPA

Get our weekly picks of what to do this weekend and the latest on Philly’s arts and entertainment scene.

MULTIPLE DAYS

ART/DESIGN

Design Philadelphia
The annual celebration of innovations and explorations in the design world has way too many events going on to properly do it justice here. There are workshops (like this Build Your Own Table event), symposia (like Smart and Healthy Cities Symposium — Healthier Cities Through Innovation: Learning from the COVID Crisis), tours (see the Monumental Tour by Kindred Arts), panel discussions (like Design is Inclusive: The Panel), and lots more. Here’s the schedule to start browsing.

October 6th through 17th, multiple locations.

MUSEUMS/EXHIBITS

The Wizard of Oz Educational Exhibit
This traveling exhibit touches down at Please Touch to provide a “multi-sensory exploration of the Land of Oz.” It includes make-your-own tornados, the Cowardly Lion Courage Crawl, “Ride
Harvest Weekend returns to Dilworth Park starting Friday. (Matt Stanley)

Touch Museum, 4231 Avenue of the Republic.
The Atlanta-born comedian the star of her own autobiographical comedy on BET+ called *The Ms. Pat Show*. You may also recognize Ms. Pat from *Last Comic Standing* and the Netflix series *The Degenerates*.

$25, October 7th through 9th, Punch Line Philly, 33 East Laurel Street.

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**THEATER/OUTDOORS**

**Oktoberfest with Tiny Dynamite**

Tiny Dynamite presents their first installment of their popular A Play, a Pie, and a Pint series in quite awhile. *Oktoberfest* promises pumpkins, scary stories, games, treats and more. Directed by Brett Ashley Robinson.

$25 (includes the show, a beer and a snack), 7 to 8:30 p.m., October 6th through 8th, Powel House gardens, 244 South Third Street.

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**COMEDY**

**John Mulaney**

Hey, John Mulaney’s gonna be a dad soon! With Olivia Munn?! This pandemic is wild. Most of the beloved comedian’s 10 shows at the Academy of Music this week are already quite sold out, but apparently there are “limited tickets available” for Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

$49 to $89, tickets still available for October 10th, 11th and 12th, Academy of Music, 240 South Broad Street.
Six women come of age in this jukeboxy musical that incorporates a soundtrack of Diana Ross, Janis Joplin, Carole King and other ’60s favorites. Created by Larry Gallagher; directed and choreographed by Richard Stafford.

$25 to $87, through October 30th, Walnut Street Theatre, 825 Walnut Street.

ART/EXHIBITIONS

Included with museum admission of $23 to $25, through January 9th, Barnes Foundation, 2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

HISTORY/ART

Imperfect History: Curating the Graphic Arts Collection at Benjamin Franklin’s Public Library

The Library Company of Philadelphia presents an exhibition of “prints, photographs, original works of art on paper, and other graphics that epitomize the evolution of a pivotal public library.” The show can enjoyed online or in-person — wherever good times are had.

Free, on display through April 8th, The Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust Street.

MUSEUMS/EXHIBITIONS

The Stories We Wear

Clothing, jewelry, tattoos and other wearable artifacts are collected in this new exhibition at the Penn Museum, which uses 250 objects to tell the story of “2,500 years of style and adornment.”

Included with museum admission of $13 to $18, continues through June 12th, Penn Museum, 3260 South Street.

MUSIC

Philly Music Fest

We don't normally list sold-out events but there's so just much local talent on display during this edition of the time-tested Philly Music Fest we couldn’t resist. Besides, you can always go on Stubhub or whatever. And if you have tickets already, congrats.

- Alex G with Moor Mother, Spirit of The Beehive, Irreversible Entanglements and Moor Jewelry at World Café Live on October 6th.
- Hop Along with AnnonXL and Lunch at Johnny Brenda's October 7th.
- Son Little with Stella Ruze and Kelsey Cork & the Swigs at Milkboy October 8th.
- Ivy Sole with Moses Mosima with Barney Cortez at REC Philly October 8th.
The Menzingers again, this time with Queen of Jeans and West Philadelphia Orchestra at Ardmore Music Hall October 10th.

October 6th to 10th, multiple locations.

Moor Mother - "Made A Circle" / "Mangrove"

THEATER

Chazz Palminteri: A Bronx Tale
Actor/writer/director Chazz Palminteri revives his “Machiavellian fable” about growing up on the tough streets of the Bronx and such. Yeah, there was a movie, but A Bronx Tale started out as a one-man show.

$35 to $75, 6:30 p.m., Keswick Theatre, 291 North Keswick Avenue, Glenside.

ART/MUSEUMS

Jasper Johns: Mind/Mirror
The Art Museum co-hosts one half of a major retrospective exhibition on Jasper Johns. The other half is at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Both halves include paintings, prints, sculptures and more spanning the Georgia-born artist’s entire career.

Free with museum admission of $14 to $25, continues through February 13th, Philadelphia Museum of Art, 2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

THEATER

A Holy Show
Inis Nua Theatre presents a wild comedy by Irish playwright Janet Moran based on “the true story of a disgraced Australian monk who hijacked a passenger jet using nothing but holy water.” Stars Liam Mulshine and Rachel Brodeur. Directed by Tom Reing.

$15 to $30, through October 24th, Louis Bluver Theatre at The Drake, 302 South Hicks Street.

ART/OUTDOORS

Night of Lights
Moor Mother - “Made A Circle” / “Mangrove”
“Now in its fi
ffth year, “the Chestnut Hill Conservancy’s innovative public art installation will once
again transform Germantown Avenue into an interactive display of local history and
architecture” using projected lights and films. The opening celebration on October 8th includes
music, storytellers, prizes and more. For a full schedule of Night of Lights “experiences,” click
here.
Free, starts October 8th, continues through October 17th, Germantown Avenue between Highland and
Willow Grove avenues.

FALL/OUTDOORS
Harvest Weekend and Made in Philadelphia Fall Festival
In addition to the Hay Maze, Dilworth Park this weekend will host its Harvest Weekend, which
includes music, professional pumpkin carving demonstrations, roaming circus performers and
more. There’s even a stein-hoisting ceremony on Saturday at 3 p.m.
Free till you buy something, October 8th to 10th, Greenfield Lawn, Dilworth Park, western face of City
Hall.

COMEDY
Margaret Cho
The groundbreaking comedian is these days probably better known for her TV appearances — 30
Rock, Masked Singer, and she’ll guest star on The Flight Attendant soon — but she’s still a
formidable standup. I’ve been watching her hilarious Youtube clips all morning. Recommended.
$30-$40, October 7th and 8th, Helium, 2031 Sansom Street.

ART/THEATER/MOVIES
Delco Arts Week
Delaware County’s busy arts party wraps up on Saturday. Here’s some of what’s still going on:

Stephen Admits to Margaret Cho He's Probably Rac...
in person and online. **October 8th and 9th, The Foundry, 25 Cedar Road, Wallingford.**

- **Requiem for a Heavyweight** This dramatic play about an aging boxer was written by Rod Serling of *Twilight Zone* fame. Directed by Barry Childress. **$13 to $15, October 8th and 9th, Colonial Playhouse, 522 W. Magnolia Ave., Aldan.**
- **Junie B. Jones The Musical, Jr.** Kids theater based on Barbara Park's Junie B. Jones books. Directed by Jean Maria Martin. **$16 to $20, through October 10th, Spotlight Theatre, 129 Park Avenue, Swarthmore.**
- **You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown** A play for kids based on the Peanuts comic strip by Charles Schulz. Directed by Vincent Raspa. **$8 to $10, October 8th to 17th, The Players Club of Swarthmore, 614 Fairview Road, Swarthmore.**
- **Fall Into the Arts Festival** A family-friendly street festival with live music, arts activities, food and more. **Free, noon to 4 p.m., October 9th, Smithbridge Park, 725 Smithbridge Road, Glen Mills.**

Find the complete Delco Arts Week schedule [here](https://www.phillymag.com/things-to-do/weekend-philadelphia/).

**NATURE/OUTDOORS**

**Autumn’s Colors**

Forget summer. Summer’s gone. It’s fall now, and for proof you need look no further than the lush and manicured Longwood Gardens, where autumnal attractions are blossoming, including the Meadow Garden, the Garden Railway and the Pumpkin Playground. (And then there’s the Chrysanthemum Festival, which starts October 16th.)

**$18 to $25, timed tickets required, through November 14th, Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square.**

**ART/EXHIBITIONS**

**Mary Reid Kelley and Patrick Kelley: Blood Moon**

Video artists Mary Reid Kelley and Patrick Kelley created two film works, *Blood Moon* and *I’m Jackson Pollock*, for this unique new installation at Fabric Workshop. “In this world they have created, Mary and Patrick explore the nature of human relations in films where all of the characters have pumpkin heads — an ironically comedic twist that belies the violence of this imagined world in films grappling with the complexities and limits of desire.”

**Free admission ($5 suggested donation), continues through February 20th, Fabric Workshop and Museum, 1214 Arch Street.**

**DRINKS/OUTDOORS**

**Parks on Tap**

It’s still outdoor drinking season as long as Parks on Tap says it is, and they’re still running a pair
MOVIES

Now Playing @ Lightbox Film Center

Delphine’s Prayers — Rosine Mbakam’s latest documentary is an interview with a single Cameroonian woman and takes place in one room. MOMA calls it “a modern-day screen test and a tale of survival.” (October 8th)

Arrebato (Rapture) — This is a new 4K restoration of Iván Zulueta’s classic about a horror director whose “reclusive bubble is popped by two events, a sudden reappearance from an ex-girlfriend and a package from past acquaintance Pedro: a reel of Super-8 film, an audiotape and a door key.” That’s what you call intrigue. (October 9th)

Both movies $10, 7 p.m., Lightbox Film Center, 401 South Broad Street.

THEATER

Murder for Two


$15 to $55, continues through October 10th, Bristol Riverside Theatre, 120 Radcliffe Street, Bristol.

SPOOKY STUFF

Some seasonal tricks and treats. Actually, none of them are tricks.

- Halloween Nights This year, Eastern State Penitentiary is casting off fan favorite Halloween attraction Terror Behind the Walls in favor of a divide and conquer approach, with some 15 different attractions spread throughout the prison. This includes two haunted house and three “immersive walk-through experiences (not scary),” plus live performances, themed bars and more. $35 nightly, continues through November 13th, Eastern State Penitentiary.
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- **Spooky Twilight Tours @ Betsy Ross House** Take a tour of the Betsy Ross House while hearing scary-but-true stories of “bloodletting, small pox, yellow fever and other gross experiences.” $12, Fridays, October 8th through 29th, 6-9 p.m., Betsy Ross House, 239 Arch Street.

- **Candlelight Ghost Tours @ Fort Mifflin** Take a candlelit tour of the historic military installation in what they’re calling “Philly’s most authentic Halloween event,” which is a hell of a claim. $20, 7 p.m., October 8th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 29th, 30th & 31st, Fort Mifflin, 1 Fort Mifflin Road.

- **Shady Brook Fall Fest** This seasonal display includes the Eerie Illuminations Halloween light show, a five-acre corn maze, bonfires and live music on the weekends, along with pumpkin and apple picking. **Timed tickets required, $12 to $30, through October 31st, Shady Brook Farm, 931 Stony Hill Road, Yardley.**

- **Annual Scarecrow Walk @ Morris Arboretum** Morris Arboretum’s annual display of scarecrows returns, this time with a “heroes” theme. Vote for your favorite scarecrow [here](https://www.morrisarboretum.org/annual-scarecrow-walk). **Reserved tickets required, $18 to $20 admission, through October 31st, Morris Arboretum, 100 East Northwestern Avenue.**

- **Franklin Fright @ Franklin Institute** “Young witches and warlocks, ghosts, and goblins are invited to trick-or-treat by knocking on friendly decorated doors in exhibits throughout the museum.” Plus live science demonstrations by Dr. Franklinstein. **$19 to $23 museum admission, weekends in October, Franklin Institute, 222 North 20th Street.**

- **Scarecrows in the Village** Every year around this time, Peddler’s Village in New Hope gets overrun with artfully crafted scarecrows and the public gets to vote on the best. **Free, runs through October 30th, Peddler’s Village, 2400 Street Road, New Hope.**

*More Halloween-themed events and pop-ups can be found on the internet.*

**THEATER**

**Minor Character**
The Wilma Theater has a reputation for modern, daring theater and this “comedic kaleidoscope” interpretation of the Anton Chekhov play certainly fits the bill. The production probably is best explained by its subtitle: *Six Translations of Uncle Vanya at the Same Time.* (See it live or stream it at home October 25th through November 7th.) Created by New Saloon. Directed by Yury Urnov. **$39 to $49, through October 24th, continues Wilma Theater, 265 South Broad Street.**

**ART/MUSEUMS**

**Miriam Carpenter — Shaping the Ethereal**
A solo exhibition of sculpture, furniture, prints and drawings which explore the artist’s “careful, deliberate process of transformation.” **$13 to $15, October 9th through March 20th, Michener Art Museum, 138 South Pine Street, Doylestown.**

**THEATER**
we speak and hear all of our voices in a moment — in their rages and echoes and mis-rememberings and deprecations and desires?” Stars Barrymore award-winner Catharine Slusar; directed by Fringe veteran Mark Lord.
$25, continues through October 30th, The Austrian Lamp Company, 140 North Second Street.

**MUSIC/FOOD**

**Joey Alexander**
The ticket price includes a three-course dinner and a show by pianist the Indonesian-born Joey Alexander. His most recent record, *Warna*, dropped last year.
$100 to $120, October 9th and 10th, 8 and 10 p.m., Chris’ Jazz Café, 1421 Sansom Street.

**ART**

**Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience**
This traveling exhibition uses “360-degree, floor-to-ceiling digital projection” and virtual reality to immerse visitors in the art of Vincent Van Gogh in ways that would surely have terrified the artist.
$34.90 to $54.50, continues through November, Tower Theater, 69th & Ludlow streets, Upper Darby.

**CULTURE/MUSEUMS**

**Indigenous Peoples Weekend**
The Museum of the American Revolution hosts several events centered on Native American culture throughout the weekend. These include: Traditional Haudenosaunee Dancers sponsored by the Oneida Indian Nation, Wampum Belt Demonstration with Richard Hamell, screenings of film *The People of the Standing Stone*, and lots more.
*Included in museum admission of $13 to $19, October 9th through 11th, Museum of the American*
This annual autumn festival at Linvilla includes hayrides, train rides, straw bale maze, corn maze, pony rides, apple blasters, pick-your-own apples and fishing. Each attraction sold separately in the $4 to $14 range. Unless you're just coming round to pick a pumpkin, buy a timed ticket ahead of time.

_Free till you buy or do something, through early November, Linvilla Orchards, 137 West Knowlton Road, Media, PA._

**ART/EXHIBITIONS**

**Now Showing at @ ICA**

_Ulysses Jenkins: Without Your Interpretation_ — a major retrospective exhibition on the work of iconic video/performance artist Ulysses Jenkins “using archival footage, photographs, image processing and elegiac soundtracks.” Continues through December 30.  

_Na Kim FFC on 6, 7, 8_ — The ICA’s new Outside In series invites artists to “visually transform” its 36th Street façade, in collaboration with the Maharam textile company. The series starts with Seoul/Berlin graphic designer Na Kim. Continues through July 10th.

_Free, timed tickets required, Institute of Contemporary Art, 118 South 36th Street._

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**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8th**

**MUSIC**

- Damien Escobar

The violinist once used to play with his brother in the pop/jazz/r&B/classical duo Nuttin’ But X

this Friday he’s playing a double shot of shows at City Winery.
$62 to $80, 6 and 9:30 p.m., City Winery, 990 Filbert Street.

MUSIC
James Blake
The beloved British baritone — known for songs like “The Colour in Anything” and “Overgrown” — is on his Friends That Break Your Heart tour, named after his most recent record, and doesn’t that sound passive aggressive? Somebody slighted James Blake and they will never hear the end of it.
$45 to $59.50, 7 p.m., Fillmore Philly, 29 East Allen Street.

COMEDY
Fortune Feimster
You may recognize the North Carolina-born comedian from Last Comic Standing, The Mindy Project, Barb and Star Go to Vista Del Mar or her Netflix standup special Sweet and Salty. Right now Fortune Feimster is on her 2 Sweet 2 Salty tour.
$29 to $60, 7 p.m., Merriam Theater, 250 South Broad Street.

MUSIC
Body Meat
Pitchfork calls Body Meat “A Philly Weirdo Who’s Rewriting the Rules of Rhythm,” which is, overall, a nice thing to say about local producer/electronic musician Chris Taylor. His most recent release is April’s Year of the Orc EP. Also on the bill: Pieri and Ted Kamal.
$15, 8 p.m., PhilaMOCA, 531 North 12th Street.
MUSIC

KRS-One

The veteran NYC rapper and Boogie Down Productions alum is known for songs like “Love's Gonna Getcha” and “My Philosophy,” not to mention R.E.M.’s “Radio Song.” And apparently he never stops touring. Also on the bill: Reef The Lost Cauze + DJ Caliph Now, Cypher Clique and DJ Touchtone.

$32, 6:45 p.m., Ardmore Music Hall, 23 East Lancaster Avenue.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9th

COMEDY

Patton Oswalt

The comedian/actor has demanded vax card requirements on his current tour, leading to a few canceled gigs in Utah and Texas last month — and an ill-advised tweet by politician/ill-advised twitterer Ted Cruz, who took a “Patton Oswalt isn’t popular stance.” The veteran comic and actor (A.P. Bio, The Goldbergs, Ratatouille) begrudgingly but hilariously took the Texas senator down in
SHOPPING/POSTCARDS

Philly Postcard Show & Sale
Postcard vendors and collectors from all over will be selling their unique, funny, weird, nostalgic treasures from the past and present. Themes include: Philly history and tourism, Jersey Shore, trains, bicycles and bike racing, museums, music and lots more. Plus, if you buy and write a postcard at the show, they’ll add a stamp and mail it for you.
$5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 2125 Chestnut Street.

MUSIC

Cheekface / Oceanator
From their jangly Pavement-ish guitars to their unpolished talk-singing, LA indie band Cheekface come off as shiftless and lazy on first listen. And second and third. But the songs are catchy and interesting and maybe looking like you’re making an effort is kinda uncool, you know? Their most recent record is Emphatically No, released in January. P.S. Get there in time for opener Oceanator who released the excellent Things I Never Said last year.
$15, 7 p.m., PhilaMOCA, 531 North 12th Street.

MUSIC

Phil Roy
Billed as An Evening with Phil Roy, this show should be a chance to get up close (but socially distant) with the veteran Philly singer-songwriter. In addition to his own music, Roy has written music for Ray Charles, Eddie Money, Widespread Panic, Katey Sagal and many more.
$40 to $50, 7 p.m., 23rd Street Armory, 22 South 23rd Street.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10th

MUSIC
Amy Speace / Jill Sobule
An intimate evening at with two accomplished singer-songwriters. Speace’s most recent record, *There Used To Be Horses Here*, dropped in January. Sobule’s *Nostalgia Kills* came out in 2018. $15, 6 p.m., City Winery, 990 Filbert Street.

SPORTS
Sixers vs. Nets
Yeah it’s just the pre-season, but basketball is back, that’s a good thing. Apparently, there’s a “cold war” going on between Ben Simmons and the team. I hope everybody finds peace and warmth. $8 to $229, 7 p.m., Wells Fargo Center, 3601 South Broad Street.

CULTURE/OUTDOORS
Indigenous Peoples Day
This free family-friendly fest at Bartram’s Garden features dancers, drummers, speakers, vendors, kid stuff and more. *Free, noon to 4 p.m., Bartram’s Garden, 5400 Lindbergh Boulevard.*
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2 Just Listed in the Poconos: Lake Wallenpaupack Log House for Sale
3 The 50 Best Restaurants in Philadelphia
4 Philly-Area Haunted Houses, Ghost Tours and Halloween Bars
5 Where to Find a Pumpkin Patch and Fall Fun Near Philadelphia

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