

# connecting tempe

THROUGH  
PEOPLE,  
PARKS &  
PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 5, 2016

## EXPERIENCE ALL THE FUN TEMPE HAS TO OFFER AT PLAYDAY 2016

It's that time of year we've all been waiting for, when we get to enjoy Tempe's annual [PlayDay!](#) This free community event invites all ages to celebrate play and reap the benefits of being active from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27 at [Kiwanis Park](#), Baseline Rd. and Mill Ave. The City is hosting the celebration in keeping with its designation as a [Playful City USA](#) community for the seventh consecutive year.

Participants of PlayDay will have the opportunity to join a variety of structured and unstructured games and events, including: youth sports activities, dance & movement activities, inflatables, program demonstrations and more!

Diablo Dash, sponsored by the [Tempe Diablos](#) will return to this year's PlayDay. Run, crawl, slide, climb, and laugh all the way to the finish line with a free, family-friendly obstacle course.

Participate in the Kid Zone Experience representative of the [Kid Zone Enrichment Program](#). Participants will have the opportunity to compete in speed stacking, a salsa making challenge, chess tournament, STEM experiments, and more!

Visitors will also have the chance to participate in the 25th annual [Just for Kids Fishing Expo](#). This is the first year City of Tempe has partnered with Anglers United and Arizona Game and Fish to bring the fishing expo to PlayDay. Anglers of all ages are welcomed to try their hand at fishing on the west side of Kiwanis Lake between 8 a.m.–2 p.m. Equipment will be provided for use at no cost, during the event. Fishing licenses are not required during the expo.

[KaBOOM!](#), a national non-profit organization dedicated to promoting play in children's lives, chose Tempe as a Playful City USA community. In the eighth year of the program, KaBOOM! named 241 cities and towns across the country — 14 of which are in Arizona — as Playful City USA honorees. Tempe was one of 22 communities given this designation for the seventh consecutive year because of the way it uses play and play spaces to positively impact childhood wellness, public safety and quality of life.

For information, visit [www.tempe.gov/familyfun](http://www.tempe.gov/familyfun) or call 480-350-5200.



## SWING INTO SPRING TRAINING AT TEMPE DIABLO STADIUM

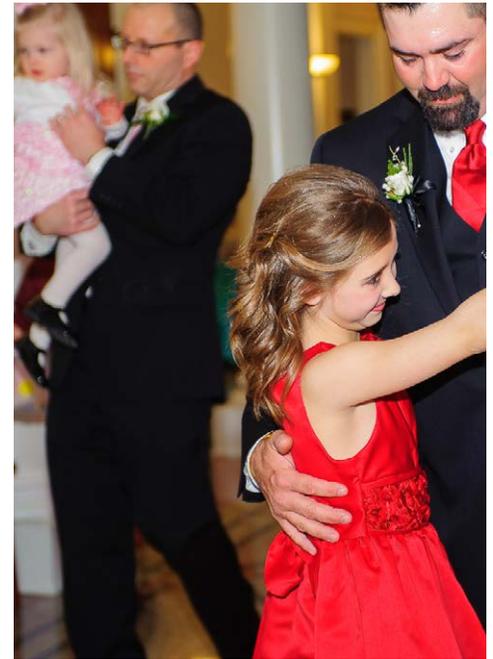
Are you ready to tear into a bag of peanuts and put on your favorite baseball cap? It's almost time for Cactus League Spring Training! Hear the crack of a bat, smell the fresh-cut grass and enjoy watching America's favorite pastime as [Angels Baseball](#) returns to Tempe. The Angels will host the Oakland A's at [Tempe Diablo Stadium](#) for their spring training home opener on Thursday, Mar. 3. The season will run through Tuesday, Mar. 29.

Spend an afternoon watching baseball and supporting great causes by attending the annual Tempe Diablos Charity Game at 1:10 p.m., Monday, Mar. 7 at Diablo Stadium! The Angels will be playing against the Chicago White Sox. All proceeds benefit local Tempe charities which aid at-risk youth, fund student scholarships, enrich the lives of individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities, and improve educational programs with an emphasis on early childhood development and life-skills. For more information, visit [www.TempeDiablos.org](http://www.TempeDiablos.org).



Tickets are available [online](#) or you can purchase them at the Tempe Diablo Stadium Ticket Window beginning Feb. 20.

Fans can park and get a free ride to the stadium with the return of the [Spring Training Trollies](#). Game attendees are encouraged to park at one of four Downtown Tempe [Park-It](#) locations, board the trolley and let someone else do the driving. The trolley will circulate between the Mill Avenue District and Tempe Diablo Stadium every 20 minutes beginning two hours before game time, until 30 minutes after the game ends on all home game days. Taking the Spring Training Trolley also allows fans to spend time in the Mill Avenue District before and after the game. Instead of sitting in event traffic, spend your time enjoying a nice lunch, dinner, drinks or even some shopping at more than [100 restaurants, bars and shops](#). The trolley stop is located at 5th St. and Mill Ave., within two blocks from the Mill Avenue Light Rail Station.



## SHARE THE LOVE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

*Escalante's Annual Sweetheart's Dance*

Valentine's is all about spending time with the people you care about, which is why the [Escalante Multi-Generational Center](#), located at 2150 E. Orange St. in Tempe, is bringing back its annual Sweetheart's Dance. Join us from 6 p.m.-8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 12 for music, food, games and fun for all ages! Admission wristbands are \$3 and are available for pre-purchase beginning Feb. 8 at the Escalante Center, or may be purchased at the event.

## FREE ART FRIDAY

Free Art Friday is a free, interactive art series that gives preschoolers and their families the opportunity to create art, learn about music and movement while having a great time! The event takes place from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the [Edna Vihel Activities Center](#), 3340 S. Rural Rd. 3340 S. Rural Rd. The next three events are themed Celebrate Arizona Statehood on Feb. 19, The Green and the Gold on Mar. 18



and Everything with Wings on Friday, Apr. 15. Registration is not required.

Check out [www.Tempe.gov/FamilyFun](http://www.Tempe.gov/FamilyFun) for more information, or call 480-350-5287.

# KIDS SWIM FREE @ KRC

It's time to get your feet wet and your swim on with the Kiwanis Recreation Center's dual Kids Swim Free sessions this winter. Enjoy the indoor, heated, calm waters of Kiwanis Pool from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., and again in the evenings from 4:30–8 p.m., Mon. through Thurs. Up to two children, ages 7 years and under, are free with each paid \$4 adult admission. For details, visit [www.Tempe.gov/Kiwanis](http://www.Tempe.gov/Kiwanis).



# DISCOVER THE SCIENCE AT GEEK'S NIGHT OUT IN TEMPE

They're ba-ack! Save the date for the return of Geek's Night Out from 4:30–7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 3 at [Tempe City Hall](http://www.Tempe.gov/CityHall) 31 E. 5th St. Geeks of all ages are invited to discover the Science at this free, family-friendly event.

Tempe has teamed up with [Google](http://www.Google.com), [Downtown Tempe Authority](http://www.DowntownTempeAuthority.com) and the [Arizona SciTech Festival](http://www.ArizonaSciTechFestival.com) to present a celebration of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM).



Get up-close-and-personal with more than 50 booths from Tempe schools, [Phoenix Comicon](http://www.PhoenixComicon.com), cosplay clubs and local businesses hosting wacky, fun and scientific experiments.

Live demonstrations, hands-on activities, music, entertainment, costume parade and more! To register your booth or learn more about the event, visit [www.Tempe.gov/Geeks](http://www.Tempe.gov/Geeks).



# KEN MCDONALD HOSTS WMPO PRE-QUALIFIER

Did you know that Tempe's Ken McDonald Golf Course is home to the Waste Management Phoenix Open Pre-Qualifier tournament? Every year dozens of pro and amateur golfers compete for a spot in the "Greatest Show on Grass."

This year's pre-qualifier took place last week and drew spectators from across the Valley. Tempe residents can play where the pros play year-round at Ken McDonald and Rolling Hills golf courses, both of which offer a championship golf

experience at a reasonable rate. Golfers of all levels are welcome and classes are available for beginners. Book your tee time at [www.tempe.gov/golftempe](http://www.tempe.gov/golftempe).



# FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY ON FEB. 13

Show your lawn some love by picking up some homegrown Tempe compost just in time for Valentine's Day. The event is free and open to residents as well as non-residents.

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 13, 7 a.m.–1 p.m.

**Where:** Tempe Compost Yard  
(Rio Salado Parkway & Hardy Drive – follow event signs)

Attendees must bring their own bag or vehicle for the compost. Staff will be on hand to assist with loading bags, trucks and trailers. There is no limit to the amount of compost; however, it will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

Since 2014, Tempe has been closing the recycling loop on the city's green

organic material by collecting it citywide and turning it into nutrient-rich compost that is returned to the community. For more info, visit [www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash](http://www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash).



# TEMPE HISTORY MUSEUM CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Join the [Tempe History Museum](#) throughout February as it celebrates Black History Month with a variety of guest presenters, musical performances and fine art.

Tempe History Museum's African American Advisory Committee will host a celebration from 4–6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13. The special program provides a look back at the distinct music and fashion of the black community from the 1930's thru the 1970's. Admission is free. Light refreshments will be served.

At 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27 the Driftwood Quintet, a Tempe-based reed quintet, will perform. Their instruments include oboe, English horn, clarinets, saxophones, bassoon and bass clarinet. In honor of Black History Month, Driftwood Quintet will feature pieces from little-known Black composers. Admission is free.

Throughout the month of February, stop by the Community Room at the Tempe History Museum to take in the fine art display presented by The Diverse Artist Collective of Arizona. Admission is free.

## A Celebration of Black History Month

Celebrate art and music through the decades with Tempe History Museum's African American Advisory Committee.

**Saturday February 13 at 4 p.m.**

The Diverse Artist Collective of Arizona will have fine art on display in the Community Room during Black History month, February 2–28.

On Saturday, February 13 at 4 p.m. join us for live music by Dr. Fish and a special presentation on the distinct music of the black community from the 1930s to the 1970s.

This fun, family friendly show is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.



Enough by Bob Martin, Diverse Artist Collective of Arizona

Barbadee Cain Calloway in the '60s

TEMPE HISTORY MUSEUM  
480-350-5100 809 E. Southern Ave.  
tempe.gov/museum  
facebook.com/TempeHistoryMuseum



# ENJOY A TASTY LUNCH WHILE SUPPORTING A GREAT CAUSE

Bring your appetite and a desire to help others to [Tempe Empty Bowls](#), held from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27. Friday's event will be held at 6th Street Park, just south of City Hall in Downtown Tempe, and Saturday's event will be held in the Tempe Library Complex, 3500 S. Rural Rd.

Attendees can purchase hand-crafted bowls, made by potters from the City of Tempe Ceramics Program, local artists and Tempe-area high school

and middle school students. With the \$10 purchase of a bowl, Whole Foods Market Tempe will offer a simple meal of soup and bread. This meal is symbolic of the caloric intake that must sustain many in the world for an entire day.

Proceeds from Tempe Empty Bowls benefit the [Tempe Community Action Agency](#), the [Escalante Community Garden](#) and the [United Food Bank](#).



# FOOD FOR FINES

The Tempe Public Library's Food for Fines program was a huge success this past holiday season. During November and December, residents donated non-perishable food items at the Tempe Public Library to feed Tempe's hungry and settled their library fines at the same time.

The food drive benefited the Tempe Community Action Agency (TCAA), a non-profit organization that serves the Tempe community. The bins at the

Library were stocked, emptied and restocked, reaching a grand total of 8,062 lbs. or approximately 6,718 meals.

The total of library fines waived during the campaign reached an amount of \$11,421. This is the third consecutive year Tempe Public Library has offered the Food for Fines Campaign. Each year, the amount of food and money donated multiplies.



# TEMPE COMMUNITY WRITING CONTEST AND BOOK COVER CONTEST

Sharpen your pencils and warm up your laptops! The [Tempe Public Library](#) in collaboration with [Arizona State University](#), is delighted to announce the return of the [Tempe Community Writing Contest](#).

The community is invited to submit an original work of fiction, creative nonfiction (including memoirs and essays) or poetry for the *Tempe Writer's Forum V.2* to be published in April 2016. Writings from high school students, college students, and adults will be represented.

New this year, community members are able to submit an original cover design for the *Tempe Writer's Forum V. 2*.

Submissions for both contests are due Monday, Feb. 15. Winners will be announced Wednesday, Apr. 13.

Each will receive a certificate, as well as an invitation to a reception at the Tempe Public Library. Winning entries will be published on the Tempe Public Library website.

Sharpen your pencils and warm up your laptops . . .

## 2016 Tempe Community WRITING CONTEST *and*

Submit entries Jan. 11 - Feb. 15

[www.Tempe.gov/WritingContest](http://www.Tempe.gov/WritingContest)



# KAJIKAWA SOFTBALL CLASSIC RETURNS TO TEMPE FEB. 11-15

The Arizona State University Women's Softball Team will kick off their 2016 season at home in the annual Kajikawa Classic from Thursday, Feb. 11 through Monday, Feb. 15, 2016 at the [Tempe Sports Complex](#) and [ASU's Farrington Stadium](#).

Named after legendary ASU softball coach and Sun Devil athletics founder, Bill Kajikawa, the Kajikawa Classic is an

ASU softball tradition. The 2016 Classic will host 31 teams (including ASU) and over 80 games will be played throughout the five-day event. Teams play in round-robin fashion and the winning team is determined by percentage. This year's classic will feature representation from the Pac-12, Mountain West, Big Ten, Big East and more.

The ASU Women's Softball Team is [scheduled](#) to play Utah State, San Jose State, Tennessee, East Carolina, Portland State, San Diego, and Kentucky in this year's Classic.

For more details, including a complete schedule of games, visit the [Sun Devil Athletics Softball page](#).





To receive up-to-date information about exciting events and opportunities happening between Connecting Tempe newsletters, become a fan of Tempe Opportunities on [Facebook](#).

## SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, Feb. 6**

**[Azure Family Concerts](#)**

3 p.m.; [Tempe History Museum](#)

**Saturday, Feb. 13**

**[Java with Joel](#)**

11 a.m. - noon; Connections Café at the [Tempe Public Library](#)

**Monday, Feb. 15**

**President's Day Holiday**

City of Tempe Administration Offices Closed

**Tuesday, Feb. 16**

**[Spring 2016 Class Registration Opens - Tempe Residents](#)**

**Friday, Feb. 19**

**[Free Art Friday](#)**

9:30–11:30 a.m. [Edna Vihel Activities Center](#)

**Friday, Feb. 19**

**[Tempe Empty Bowls](#)**

11 a.m.–2 p.m.; [6th Street Park](#)

**Saturday, Feb. 20**

**[Angels Spring Training Tickets on Sale](#)**

9 a.m.; [Tempe Diablo Stadium – Ticket Window](#)

**Saturday, Feb. 20**

**[Tempe Empty Bowls](#)**

11 a.m.–2 p.m.; [Tempe Library Complex](#)

**Monday, Feb. 22**

**[Spring 2016 Class Registration Opens - General](#)**

**Saturday, Feb. 27**

**[PlayDay 2016](#)**

10 a.m.–2 p.m.; [Kiwanis Park](#)

**Thursday, Mar. 3**

**[Geek's Night Out](#)**

[Tempe City Hall](#)

**Monday, Mar. 7**

**[Angels Spring Training Charity Game](#)**

1:10 p.m.; [Tempe Diablo Stadium](#)

 City of Tempe

PLAY LEARN LIVE GROW

[www.tempe.gov/recreation](http://www.tempe.gov/recreation)