

## CCRA Spring Calendar—Get Out!

### CCRA Board Nominations

Deadline for submissions  
Tuesday, April 2  
Email to [centercity@centercityresidents.org](mailto:centercity@centercityresidents.org)  
Mail to CCRA, 1900 Market Street., 8th Fl.,  
Phila., PA 19103

### Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival

*Cherry Blossom 10K & 5K*  
Fairmount Park  
Saturday, April 13, 7:30 am  
<http://japanphilly.org/?event=cherry-blossom-10k-5k>

### Sakura Sunday

Shofuso Japanese House and Garden,  
Fairmount Park  
Sunday, April 14, 10 am  
[http://japanphilly.org/?event=sakura-sunday&event\\_date=2019-04-14](http://japanphilly.org/?event=sakura-sunday&event_date=2019-04-14)

### Dining Out for Life

Thursday, April 18  
Proceeds benefit AIDS/HIV organizations  
<http://www.diningoutforlife.com/philadelphia>

### Philadelphia Science Festival

Friday, April 26 to Saturday, May 4  
*Science Carnival, Benjamin Franklin Parkway*  
Saturday, April 27, 10 am – 4 pm  
<https://www.fi.edu/psf>

### Philadelphia Chinese Lantern Festival

Franklin Square, 200 N. 6th Street  
Wednesday, May 1 to Monday, July 8  
<http://historicphiladelphia.org/chineselanternfestival/>

### Protect&Elect

*Gun Violence: What Can Be Done? - Educational Forum*  
Philadelphia Ethical Society  
1906 Rittenhouse Square  
Thursday, May 2, 5 – 7 pm  
Free and Open to the Public  
[protectelectphilly@gmail.com](mailto:protectelectphilly@gmail.com)

### Trinity Playgroup Golden Gala

Celebrating 50 Years  
2200 Spruce Street  
Friday, May 3, 7 – 10:30 pm  
[www.trinityplaygroup.org](http://www.trinityplaygroup.org)

### Blue Cross Broad Street Run

Sunday, May 5, 8 am  
<https://give.backonmyfeet.org/broadstreet2019>

### CCRA Celebration of Center City Living

Casino Night!  
Ethical Society, 1906 Rittenhouse Square  
Thursday, May 9, 6 pm  
[www.centercityresidents.org](http://www.centercityresidents.org)

### Fitler Square Spring Fair

23<sup>rd</sup> & Pine Streets  
Mother's Day weekend  
Friday, May 10, 10 am – 6 pm  
Saturday, May 11, 10 am – 4 pm  
[www.fitlersquare.org](http://www.fitlersquare.org)

### Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair

Rittenhouse Square  
Friday, May 10, 11 am – 6 pm  
Saturday, May 11, 11 am – 6 pm  
Sunday, May 12, 11 am – 5 pm  
<http://www.pacrafts.org/fine-craft-fairs/may-2/>

### Aberdeen Dad Vail Regatta

Schuykill River  
Saturday, May 10 and Sunday, May 11  
[www.dadvail.org](http://www.dadvail.org)

### Rittenhouse Row Spring Festival

18<sup>th</sup> & Walnut Streets  
Saturday, May 18 at noon  
<https://www.visitphilly.com/things-to-do/events/rittenhouse-row-spring-festival/>

### Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show

Friday, June 7, 11 – 7 pm  
Saturday, June 8, 11 am – 7 pm  
Sunday, June 9, 11 am – 5 pm  
<http://www.rittenhousesquareart.com/>

### Odunde Festival

23<sup>rd</sup> & South Streets  
Sunday, June 9  
<https://www.odundefestival.org/>

### Little Friends Festival

Friends of Rittenhouse Square  
Wednesday, June 19, 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/little-friends-festival/>

### Ball on the Square

Friends of Rittenhouse Square  
Rittenhouse Square  
Thursday, June 20, 7 pm  
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/ball-on-the-square/>

### Young Friends Ball on the Square

Friends of Rittenhouse Square  
Friday, June 21, 7:30 – 11:30 pm  
<http://friendsofrittenhouse.org/events/all/young-friends-ball-on-the-square/>

### Bloomsday

Readings from James Joyce's *Ulysses*  
Rosenbach Museum & Library  
2008-10 Delancey Place  
Sunday, June 16, 11 am – 8 pm  
<https://rosenbach.org/events/bloomsday-2019/>

### Curtis Institute of Music

Free student recitals  
1726 Locust Street  
<http://www.curtis.edu/performances/>

To get the latest news about events in Philadelphia, go to VisitPhilly at <https://www.visitphilly.com/>

To get the latest news about events in Center City, sign up for (IN) Center City, the e-newsletter of the Center City District: <http://www.centercityphila.org/incentercity/signup.php>

## City Lit

## Lives of Libraries – Complex, Evolving, Essential

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

In *The Library Book*, Susan Orlean starts by writing about the true story of the devastating 1986 fire in the Los Angeles Public Library. She details the damage caused by the fire, the long and expensive process of restoring the building and the books, and the attempts to discover what or who caused the fire. She weaves in lively stories and anecdotes about the library's patrons, managers, staffers, and architects.

Orlean broadens her scope, going on to describe the amazing range of collections housed in public libraries, the unusual types of information people search for, the changing needs of the public and how libraries are serving them, and a myriad of other interesting and entertaining tidbits, collectively illustrating the important and useful role public libraries play in the lives of ordinary people.

*Editor's note: for a local account of the evolution of the Philadelphia Free Library and its wide-ranging efforts to adapt to the changing needs of its patrons, see the recent article in The Philadelphia Inquirer, published January 28: <https://www.philly.com/news/free-library-millennials-pew-20190128.html>*