

This past week I had the pure pleasure of watching 250 students grades 4-7 enjoy an amazing one-man performance of Jack London's classic tale *Call of the Wild*. The young people sat in rapt attention as actor Noel Gaulin physically and emotionally inhabited every role. The story is told from the perspective of Buck, a St. Bernard-Scotch Shepherd mix, who is stolen from his home in California and forced into work as a sled dog in Alaska during the Gold Rush. Noel's convincing performance included Buck's barks, whines, and howls, and those of the dogs and wolves he encounters. When the lights went up so did hundreds of hands with questions such as "How long did take to learn to act and sound like a dog?", and "Why did he write the book from a dog's perspective?" It was so rewarding to see and hear the enthusiasm in their voices as they shared their favorite parts of the performance.

Our next Youth in Arts performance is *Warriors*, an original, one-woman play that dramatizes Melba Patillo Beals' searing memoir about the battle to integrate Little Rock's central high school. Seen through the lens of a contemporary young activist, the performance asks, what does a warrior look like? What's worth fighting for? We are thrilled that the entire Woodstock Union High School and Middle School will attend the performance as part of their Martin Luther King Day programs.

Wassail Weekend:

On December 5th our Holiday House Tour volunteers will attend a luncheon at the Woodstock Inn to learn more about the homes on the tour, about the team with whom they will work whether it is at registration, on the wagon, or in the homes.

Again, a heartfelt thank you to the homeowners for opening their doors, The Prince and Pauper Restaurant for hosting a reception for tour participants, and the nearly 100 volunteers who make the event possible. For tickets and more information please go to pentanglearts.org/holiday-house-tour-2019

Cookies with Santa and White Christmas

Don't forget that on **Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 pm** Santa will be on stage to hear Christmas wishes. Kiddos can enjoy cookies and candy served up by our friendly elf, followed by a 3:00 pm screening of the 2018 version of the Grinch.

To cap off wassail weekend we've added a screening of the **1954 holiday classic White Christmas**. Tickets are only \$5.00 and include free small popcorn!

On the Free Screen:

On Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm we will screen the documentary **Virunga** as part of Sustainable Woodstock's Climate Change and Sustainability Film Series.

The film tells the story of four brave individual's fight to protect Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo, home to the world's last mountain gorillas, from war, poaching, and the threat of oil exploration.

On the Big Screen:

Last Christmas (PG-13)

Nothing seems to go right for young Kate, a frustrated Londoner who works as an elf in a year-round Christmas shop. But things soon take a turn for the better when she meets Tom -- a handsome charmer who seems too good to be true. As the city transforms into the most wonderful time of the year, Tom and Kate's growing attraction turns into the best gift of all -- a Yuletide romance.

Showtimes:

Friday, November 29, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 30, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 1, 2019 at 3:00 pm

Monday, December 2, 2019 at 7:30 pm