The MVCC Cultural Series is one of the biggest entertainment series in the Mohawk Valley, known for bringing world-class events to our campuses in Utica and Rome. The twice-a-year series is organized by the Cultural Events Council, which strives to plan events that reflect and enhance diverse interests to entertain and enlighten both MVCC students and the greater community.

With events that include lectures, concerts, films, comedy shows, illusionists, dance and theatrical performances, art exhibits, and poetry readings, as well as make-and-take workshops and activities for kids, the MVCC Cultural Series has something for everyone — at an affordable price. Most Cultural Series events are $5 or less to the public and many are free. All events are free for currently matriculated MVCC students.
PERFORMANCE: “Distinguished Daredevils” PB
Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Aug. 28 • Su. • 8:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP: “Introductory Brewing for Beer Lovers,” w/ Joe Kinney, Brewer and Technical Assistant at MVCC $
Learn the basics of homebrewing – ingredients, fermentation, and bottling – in this hands-on workshop. Must be 21 or older. Limited tickets available.
Rome: Room 134 • Aug. 30 • T • 6-8 p.m. • $10 general • $5 MVCC employee
Utica: AB212 • Sept. 1 • Th. • 6-8 p.m. • $10 general • $5 MVCC employee

SEPTEMBER

PERFORMANCE: Hypnotist Derrick Watkins PB
Witness the unmatched professionalism, charm, and energy of stage hypnosis entertainer Derrick Watkins.
Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 6 • T • 8:30 p.m.

MOVIE: “Jurassic World: Dominion” $
Rated PG-13 • 2022 • 146 minutes • Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi
Rome: Festine Auditorium • Sept. 7 • W • 7 p.m.
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee
Utica: Schafer Theater, WH • Sept. 7 • W • 7 p.m.
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee

SPECIAL EVENT: Black Light Mini Golf $ MVCC’s Jorgensen Athletic/Event Center is transformed into an 18-hole mini golf course with black lights! Entry is first-come, first-served, available only on day of event (no advanced sales).
Utica • Field House, JC • Sept. 9 • F • 7-10 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

FAMILY FUN SERIES: “Lightyear” $ The film will be followed by activities and snacks.
Rated PG • 2022 • 100 minutes • Animation, Action, Adventure
Rome: Festine Auditorium • Sept. 10 • Sa. • noon
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee/children under 12
Utica: Schafer Theater, WH • Sept. 10 • Sa. • noon
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee/children under 12

GAME SHOW: “Constitution Day Bingo” PB
Play bingo and test your knowledge of the U.S. Constitution.
Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 13 • T • 8:30 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECEPTION Help welcome the international students who came to MVCC from around the world.
Utica • Lobby, PH • Sept. 13 • T • 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

ART EXHIBIT OPENING AND RECEPTION: “Faculty Show: Familiar Stranger” Artistic highlights from faculty in MVCC’s School of Art. Exhibit will run until Friday, Oct. 14.
Utica • Juergensen Gallery, WH • Sept. 13 • T • 1 p.m.

WORKSHOP: “Cheese and Charcuterie Board Design & Theory,” w/ Vincent Petronio, Director of Hospitality Programs at MVCC and Executive Chef at môtus Utica
Learn the art of charcuterie in this hands-on workshop. Materials will be provided. Limited tickets available.
Rome • Dining and Community Hall • Sept. 14 • W • 6 p.m.
$15 general • $10 MVCC employee
VOLUNTEER FAIR
Regional employers and agencies will share a variety of open volunteer roles, and local professionals will share stories of how volunteerism shaped their career paths. Visit mvcc.edu/careerevents for more information.

Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 15 • Th. • 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

LECTURE: “Don’t Take No for An Answer,” w/ Jermiko Thomas, Entrepreneur and Award-Winning Author
Through his many projects, youth advocate and lifelong learner Jermiko Thomas aims to help people build happier, healthier lives.

Utica: Excellus Room 225, WH • Sept. 15 • Th. • 6 p.m.
Rome: Festine Auditorium • Oct. 6 • Th. • 7 p.m.

CONCERT: Flamenco Guitarist Maria Zemantauski
Maria Zemantauski is a nylon-string guitarist and composer whose style is influenced by a variety of musical genres, including Spanish classical, flamenco, and American fingerstyle. Her albums have received stellar reviews around the world. Visit mariazemantauski.com.

Rome • Festine Auditorium • Sept. 15 • Th. • 7 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

CONCERT: Nick Black
Nick Black is influenced by the feel-good music of Justin Timberlake and Bruno Mars and the musicality of Al Green and Sting. Visit nickblackmusic.com.

Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 20 • T • 8:30 p.m.

FACT & FILM: “CODA”
Winner of the 2022 Academy Award for Best Picture, “CODA” is a film about Ruby, a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) and the only hearing member of her family. A brief talk will precede the film.

Rome: Festine Auditorium • Sept. 20 • T • 6 p.m.
Utica: Schafer Theater, WH • Sept. 21 • W • 6 p.m.

CONCERT: “American Idol Songwriters Round,” w/ American Idol Winners Maddie Poppe, Trent Harmon, and Nick Fradiani

Utica • Schafer Theater, WH • Sept. 23 • F • 7 p.m.
$20 general • $15 MVCC employee

GAME SHOW: “Hispanic Heritage Kahoot Trivia”

Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 27 • T • 8:30 p.m.

CONCERT: Kristen Merlin

Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Sept. 29 • Th. • noon

WORKSHOP: “A Novel Idea: Publish That Book,” w/ Sam McManus, Author and Assistant Professor of English at MVCC
This workshop will introduce the tools and techniques to tell your story, your way. Limited tickets available.

Rome: Dining and Community Hall
Sept. 22 • T • 6 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee
Utica: Excellus Room 225, WH • Oct. 3 • Th. • 6 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

WORKSHOP: “A Novel Idea: Publish That Book,” w/ Sam McManus, Author and Assistant Professor of English at MVCC

This workshop will introduce the tools and techniques to tell your story, your way. Limited tickets available.

Rome: Dining and Community Hall
Sept. 22 • T • 6 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee
Utica: Excellus Room 225, WH • Oct. 3 • Th. • 6 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

COMEDY: Jay Pharoah
Jay Pharoah spent six seasons as a cast member of NBC’s “Saturday Night Live” and starred in the Showtime series “White Famous.” In film, Pharoah has appeared in Steven Soderbergh’s “Unsane” and “2 Minutes of Fame,” and had supporting roles in “Get a Job,” “Top Five,” “Ride Along,” “Intramural,” and “Lola Versus.” He also has voiced roles in animated TV series, including “Family Guy,” “BoJack Horseman,” and “SuperMansion.” Visit jaypharoahworld.com.

MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY.

Utica • Field House, JC • Sept. 29 • Th. • 7 p.m. • $25 general • $15 MVCC employee
WORKSHOP: “Crochet Granny Squares,” w/ Lauren Venettozzi, Owner of Love and Stitches $ Learn how to use granny squares to create blankets, sweaters, or bags. Must be able to crochet a chain stitch and a double crochet stitch. Limited tickets available. Visit loveandstitchescny.com.

Utica • Excellus Room 225, WH Oct. 4 • T • 6 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

PSYCHIC READINGS $ Readings are limited, so purchase tickets in advance. A ticket is required for a reading, and appointments are first-come, first-served.

Rome • PC119 Oct. 19 • W • 9 a.m.-noon
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee

Utica • Excellus Room 225, WH Oct. 19 • W • 3-6 p.m.
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee

WORKSHOP: “Intercultural Competency,” w/ Marisa Silva, Director of Memberships and Programs at One to World

This workshop provides a critical step toward fostering an environment of inclusion. The Zoom link can be found on the MVCC events calendar.

Oct. 5 • W • 3 p.m. • Zoom/Virtual

EXHIBIT: Coming Out Day Celebrate the LGBTQ+ community by supporting those living as their authentic selves by “coming out” to their family and friends. Please note: The Rome Campus will only have story posters on display.

Rome • Atrium Oct. 11 • T • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Utica • Lobby, WH Oct. 11 • T • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION: “Musical Memories: A Showtune Celebration” $ MVCC students and alumni perform numbers from the great American Musical Theater Canon. Musical Director is John Krause. Choreographer is Dale Lynne Cruskie. Director is Paul Cruskie.

Utica • Schafer Theater, WH Oct. 20-22 • Th.-Sa. • 7 p.m.
$5 general • $2 MVCC employee

LECTURE: “The Comic Implosion,” w/ Keith Dallas, Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, Hofstra University
In 1978, DC’s parent company demanded a drastic decrease in the number of comic books they published, leaving stacks of completed stories unpublished. The series of massive cutbacks and cancellations was known as “The DC Implosion.”

Utica • ACC116 • Oct. 1 • Sa. • 4 p.m.

MOVIE: “Mission: Joy — Finding Happiness in Troubled Times” An exploration of the friendship between Archbishop Desmond Tutu and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Some snacks will be provided; you are welcome to bring your own bagged lunch.

Utica • ACC116 Oct. 25 • T • 12:30 p.m.
Rated NR • 2021 • 90 minutes Documentary

ART EXHIBIT OPENING: “Adjunct Feature: Time and Space” Artistic highlights from adjunct faculty in MVCC’s School of Art. Exhibit will run until Friday, Dec. 9.

Utica • Juergensen Gallery, WH Oct. 25 • T • 1 p.m.

OPEN MIC NIGHT $ Open to performers (instrumentalists, singers, dancers, storytellers, poets, jugglers, magicians, etc.) and spectators. MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY.

Utica • Snack Bar, ACC Oct. 25 • T • 8:30 p.m.

DRAG SHOW: Glam Drag Performers “Laduca” and “Myles” $ Drag is more than slipping into a dress and pasting on eyelashes — it is a persona, performance, art, and culture. Recently, drag shows have become more popular with shows like RuPaul’s “Drag Race.” If you’ve never been to a drag show, you’re missing out. MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY.

Utica • Schafer Theater, WH Oct. 27 • Th. • 7 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee

GHOST HUNTER: Paranormal Investigator John Zaffis, Godfather of the Paranormal $ John Zaffis, of SYFY’s “Haunted Collector,” has over 43 years of experience investigating the paranormal, including work with his aunt and uncle, Ed and Lorraine Warren, the first investigators in the Amityville hauntings. Visit johnzaffis.com.

Utica • Schafer Theater, WH Oct. 25 • T • 7 p.m.
$10 general
$5 MVCC employee

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Utica • Schafer Theater, WH Oct. 27 • Th. • 7 p.m.
$10 general • $5 MVCC employee
**WORKSHOP: “Day of the Dead: Make Your Own Sugar Skulls,”** w/ Christi Harrington, Professor of Art at MVCC

Come learn about the rituals and traditions involving this holiday and make your own sugar skulls, which will be exhibited at the Day of the Dead shrine in the Library through Nov. 8. Limited tickets available.

**Utica • ACC116 • Nov. 1 • T • 6 p.m. • $5 general • $2 MVCC employee**

**MURDER MYSTERY: “The Halloween Aftermath”**

Help figure out what really happened on Halloween in this event, being put on by aspiring student actors. Snacks will be served.

**Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Nov. 1 • T • 8:30 p.m. • $10 general • $5 MVCC employee**

**AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE PERFORMANCE: “Cromania!” w/ Deaf Comedian Crom Saunders**

“Cromania!” features skits that incorporate pop culture, improvisation, puns, and physical feats. Event will be verbally translated for the hearing abled. Visit thecromsaunders.com.

**Mature Audiences Only.**

**Rome • Festine Auditorium • Nov. 3 • Th. • 7 p.m. • $10 general • $5 MVCC employee**

**SPECIAL EVENT: “An Evening with Actor Leslie David Baker,” Moderated by Comedian Charlie Nadler**

Join us for a moderated conversation with actor Leslie David Baker, best known for his role as Stanley Hudson in the U.S. remake of “The Office.” Since the show ended, Baker has appeared in films such as “The Happymtime Murders” and “Vivo.” He also has appeared in many TV comedies over the years, including “That 70s Show,” “Malcolm in the Middle,” “Scrubs,” and “Key & Peele.” He also had a recurring role in the CMT series “Still the King” and played a recurring character in the NFL Sunday short sketch series “Riggle’s Picks.”

**Utica • Schafer Theater, WH • Nov. 4 • F • 7 p.m. • $20 general • $15 MVCC employee**

**CONCERT: “Sounds of China”**

Vocalist Ying Wu, MM, Ying Wu Vocal Studio, and pianist Tina Toglia, DMA, lecturer at Hamilton College, will perform various genres of Chinese music, including folk songs, ancient and modern art songs, and opera arias.

**Utica • Schafer Theater, WH • Nov. 8 • T • 6 p.m. • $5 general • $2 MVCC employee**

**DEBATE NIGHT**

This event aims to empower all participants with the skills to express their beliefs clearly and concisely (public speaking and effective communication) in a formal setting.

**Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Nov. 8 • T • 8:30 p.m. • $5 general • $2 MVCC employee**

**GAME SHOW: “Minute to Win It”**

Interactive live game show with trivia and physical challenges, where contestants have the chance to win up to $300 in prizes.

**Rome • Dining and Community Hall • Nov. 10 • Th. • 7 p.m. • $5 general • $2 MVCC employee**

**GAMING: “Extra Life: Play Games, Change the Future”**

Join MVCC’s Extra Life community by playing games or watching gaming events as we fundraise to Change Kids’ Health to Change the Future. All funds raised go to the MVHS Foundation for children’s equipment and supplies.

**Utica • Excellus Room 225, WH • Nov. 12 • Sa. • 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**
INTERNATIONAL CAFÉ AND CONVERSATION: “MVCC’s International Students”
Students from around the world will share stories of their countries and presentations on their unique cultures.
Utica • Excellus Room 225, WH • Nov. 15 • T • 2:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT: Rome Campus Casino Night $
The Rome Campus Dining and Community Hall will be transformed into a casino with gaming tables staffed by professional dealers. Mocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be served.
Rome • Dining and Community Hall
Nov. 15 • T • 7 p.m. • $5 general • $2 MVCC employee

GAME SHOW: “Friendsgiving Bingo” PB
Play bingo for a chance to win the supplies to make a perfect Friendsgiving meal.
Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Nov. 15 • T • 8:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP: Paint and Sip $ In this step-by-step workshop, Instructor Connie Pratt, MFA, will direct participants to paint “Adirondack Fall and Chairs” while enjoying non-alcoholic fall beverages. Materials will be provided. Limited tickets available.
Utica • ACC116 • Nov. 16 • W • 6 p.m. $20 general • $15 MVCC employee

CONCERT: Matthew Schuler PB
Matthew Schuler's blind audition for NBC's “The Voice” broke the record for the fastest four-chair turn in show history. Visit matthewschulernow.com.
Utica • Snack Bar, ACC • Nov. 17 • Th. • 8:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENT: AIDS Memorial Quilt
The AIDS Quilt is a memorial to those who lost their lives to AIDS, composed of more than 49,000 individual panels handmade by surviving loved ones. MVCC will display Quilt panels with a relationship to the Mohawk Valley. To request a specific panel be included, please email your request to jfanelli@mvcc.edu by Oct. 7, 2022. The display will run from Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 2022. Visit aidsmemorial.org.
Rome: Atrium • Nov. 28 • M • 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Utica: Lobby, PH • Nov. 28 • M • 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

WORKSHOP: “Holiday Glass Ornaments,” w/ Penny and Marie Veschusio, Owners of Songbyrd Street Studios $ In this step-by-step workshop, Penny and Marie will lead you through the process of creating a festive tree fused glass ornament. They will fire all ornaments in their studio kiln and return them the following week (Dec. 5-9) for pickup at the MVCC Box Office, open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. (email boxoffice@mvcc.edu to make other arrangements if necessary). Limited tickets available.
Utica: Excellus Room 225, WH • Nov. 29 • T • 6 p.m. $10 general • $5 MVCC employee
Rome: Dining and Community Hall
Nov. 30 • W • 6 p.m. $10 general • $5 MVCC employee

WORKSHOP: “Wool Felting,” w/ Eric Freeman of Wool Felting Creations $ Would you like to build a snowman? In this step-by-step workshop, Eric will lead you through the process of creating your own wool felted snowman. Materials will be provided. Limited tickets available.
Utica: Excellus Room 225, WH • Dec. 6 • T • 6 p.m. $10 general • $5 MVCC employee
Rome: Dining and Community Hall • Dec. 7 • W • 6 p.m. $10 general • $5 MVCC employee

MUSICAL PRODUCTION: “The Little Mermaid” $ This production of the Little Mermaid is filled with opportunities for audience participation. It features eye-catching scenery and costumes and original songs from the Disney production based on the Hans Christian Anderson story. Presented by The Panto Company USA and sponsored by Broadway Theatre League of Utica.
Utica • Schafer Theater, WH • Nov. 12 • Sa. • 2 p.m. $20 general • $12 MVCC employee/children under 12