



**NEWSLETTER**  
**September 2023**

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Dear MAX Members and Friends,

We have a plethora of interesting events coming up and many are planned on the calendar, including a Halloween drag party. You must come in some form of drag, so get your outfit ready!

Membership renewal notices went out at \$45/person. Dues will increase to \$50 as of January 1, 2024, so renew or sign up for membership before then.

Please realize that photos from most events are posted on the MAX website. To see event or additional photos that might not be posted with our Recap of Recent Events, go to: [www.maxsf.org](http://www.maxsf.org) and click on the Event/Newsletter Archives tab.

Hope to see you at a future event!

Jim Tom, Chairman

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### **Upcoming Events**

[September 1 - First Friday at Beaux](#)

[September 14 - Tour of SF Civic Center](#)

[September 19 - Retrospective Art Show presented by Tom of Finland Foundation](#)

[September 21 - Third Thursday at Beaux](#)

[September 23 - Angel Island Excursion](#)

[October 1 - Pre Castro Street Fair Social](#)

[October 7 - Guided Tour of the Nike Missile Site](#)

[October 15 - SF Music Day and Lunch](#)

[October 28 - Halloween Drag Party!](#)

### **Other Planned Events**

Other events already scheduled or in the planning stages include the following plus our usual bi-monthly gatherings at Beaux.

November (mid) Dine About at restaurant

November 11 - New Conservatory Theater - *We are Continuous*

November 18 - Malcom X opera simulcast

December 15 - Holiday Cheers - Champagne social

**Note:** All upcoming events also can be seen on the MAX website/calendar at [www.maxsf.org](http://www.maxsf.org). Clicking on a newsletter link herein and then seeing "Page not found (error 404)" indicates link was corrupted. Please go directly to the website to register if the hyperlinks herein do not work.

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## **Recap of Recent Events**

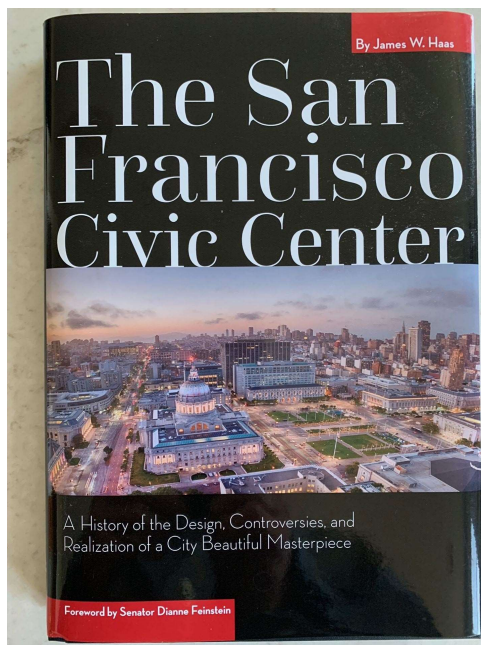
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### **First Friday at Beaux**

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at First Friday on **September 1st** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

### **Tour of SF Civic Center**

**Thursday, September 14, 2pm - 3:30pm.** Join MAX for a guided tour of the San Francisco Civic Center, a local and national treasure. It has the largest collection of monumental municipal buildings in the United State, creating the most complete civic center of those contemplated at the beginning of the 1900s. The Civic Center is an outstanding achievement of the City Beautiful Movement. Designed in 1912 with construction started on the domed City Hall in 1913, it is been a work in progress ever since. Tour includes a visit to the Beaux Arts City Hall, a historic landmark designed by Arthur Brown, Jr. with a dome that is the tallest in the Country.



Our guide, Jim Haas, wrote the book, *"The San Francisco Civic Center"* that provides a definitive history of the center's office and cultural buildings. Jim will give you a tour and discussion of the origins, controversies and achievements that brought the area to what it is today. Jim has been involved with the rehabilitation and completion of Civic Center for the last 40 years. Link to his book is at: <https://unpress.nevada.edu/9781948908153/>

Event is limited to 16 people. The tour is free, but you must register and pay a \$20 fee to reserve your spot. The reservation fee will be refunded at the tour. A waitlist will be made available for cancellations. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after September 12. Register by clicking on: <https://maxsf.org/event-5397582>

Meet in front of the SF Main Library at 100 Larkin Street. For additional information, contact Ken Cleaveland at: [sfrealadvocate@gmail.com](mailto:sfrealadvocate@gmail.com)

**Retrospective Art Show presented by Tom of Finland Foundation**

**Tuesday, September 19, 6:00pm - 9:00pm.** Join MAX for an evening of culture and community to view expressive queer art by Tom of Finland Foundation Artist-in-Residence, Felix D'eon. The event will feature 20+ of his original works in the art-filled home of his largest collector, Gary Keener, a ToFF board member and MAX member. Also present will be ToFF Executive Director, Brad Lim-Senesac, who will be kicking off its "\$40 Membership to Celebrate 40 Years of Service" campaign.



The "Snakes and Ladders" painting shown with Felix and Gary will be introduced at the event to its new home at Gary's! Come together to socialize, celebrate freedom of expression, and support a cause that matters.

The Tom of Finland **Foundation** is dedicated to preserving and promoting queer culture and erotic art. For membership and additional information, go to: <https://www.tomoffinland.org/membership/>

There is no charge for this Event. Drinks and appetizers will be served. Register asap for this event, as registration for MAX members might be halted even before the tentative limit of 25 people is reached. Register at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5399522>

Location is on Dolores Street, right off 18th Street in San Francisco. Address will be provided to registrants about a week prior to the event. For additional information, contact Gary at 562-331-3747.

### **Third Thursday at Beaux**

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at Third Thursday on **September 21st** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

### **Angel Island Excursion**

**Saturday, September 23, 9:00am - 5:30pm** - Join MAX for a day trip to Angel Island, the largest island in the San Francisco Bay. A grass and woodland covered mountain island, [Angel Island State Park](#) offers spectacular views of Marin County, San Francisco, and the Golden Gate.



Angel Island has a great deal of history packed within its scenic shores. Two museums on the island are located at the [Angel Island Immigration Station](#). Called the Ellis Island of the West, Angel Island was the gateway for immigrants from the Pacific. More than a million immigrants from more than 80 countries were processed between 1910 and 1940, including 175,000 Chinese. Due to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, most Chinese immigrants were detained for up to 90 days - and a few for almost two years. Due to an appeals process, most immigrants were eventually granted entry to America.

For a map of Angel Island, see the last page of the PDF available [here](#). **Arrive at the San Francisco Ferry Terminal by 9am, so that we can meet-up before boarding the ferry together.**

We'll catch the first [ferry](#) from San Francisco, departing at 9:25am from Gate C at the San Francisco Ferry Terminal, arriving Angel Island 9:55am. We'll have a guided tour of approximately one hour at the Immigration Station Detention Barracks at 11am. Hear the captivating stories of the immigrants waiting for entry to America, the processes they endured, their appeals, and the sometimes beautiful and sometimes despairing poetry they created while waiting. Attendees will have the choice of covering the 1.5 miles to and from the Immigration Station by foot or tram.

The event champions for this event are Bruce Cecil and Paul Munro. One will go with the group traveling by tram to the Immigration Station and the other with the group that walks there.

**Bring a lunch to eat with the group at picnic tables near the arrival dock.** We'll have lunch about 1:15pm. Beverages and light snacks are available for purchase at the snack bar near the arrival dock. However, due to damage during the winter storms, the restaurant on the island is closed.

For the Angel Island Tram Tour option, a tram tour of the entire island will leave at about 2:15pm (possibly a bit earlier), starting near the arrival dock. The tram covers the 5.5-mile Perimeter Road and will take about an hour and 15 minutes. If you sign-up for the tram tour of the island, plan to catch the 4:45pm ferry back to San Francisco.

Ferries depart the island for San Francisco at 3:00pm and 4:45pm, arriving at the Ferry Terminal approximately 30 minutes later. Bruce will be leaving on the 3:00pm ferry. Paul will be on the tram tour of the island and will leave on the 4:45pm ferry.

Whichever departure time you choose, arrive in plenty of time to make sure you don't miss your ferry of choice. Relax with a beverage (beer and wine available) at the snack bar while waiting for the ferry. ***If you separate from the MAX group and miss the 4:45pm ferry, your last chance to get off the***

*the MAX group and miss the 4:40pm ferry, your last chance to get on the island that night will be a 5:20pm ferry to Tiburon, from which you would need to take an Uber, Lyft, or taxi to return to San Francisco.*

Four ticket options are available. The primary two options are with and without island tram, and the remaining two just represent discounted price options for seniors over 65 years.

All ticket options include the round-trip ferry ride between the San Francisco Ferry Terminal and Angel Island, the guided tour of the Immigration Station, and the option to take a tram between the arrival dock and the Immigration Station (one way or both ways).

The "General plus Angel Island Tram Tour" ticket options also include the 2:15pm tram tour of the entire island perimeter.

Spaces are limited to 18 people, so sign up today! A waitlist will be made available for cancellations. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after Tuesday, September 12. Register at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5383893>

For additional information, contact Paul at [paul.munro@members.maxsf.org](mailto:paul.munro@members.maxsf.org) or Bruce at [bruce.cecil@maxsf.org](mailto:bruce.cecil@maxsf.org)

### **Pre Castro Street Fair Social**

**Sunday, October 1, 11am-2pm.** Stop by on Sunday to socialize and have some fun prior to venturing out to the 49th Annual Castro Street Fair. The location is half block from Castro and Market St. Address will be given one week prior.





There will be make your own sandwiches, fruit, desserts and more. Handcrafted Mimosa's, Bloody Mary's and Coffee drinks available.

\$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Limited to 20 people but a waitlist will be made available for cancellations. Dues paying MAX members will have early priority for registration. Cancellation refunds not available after September 26. Register here: <https://maxsf.org/event-5383346>

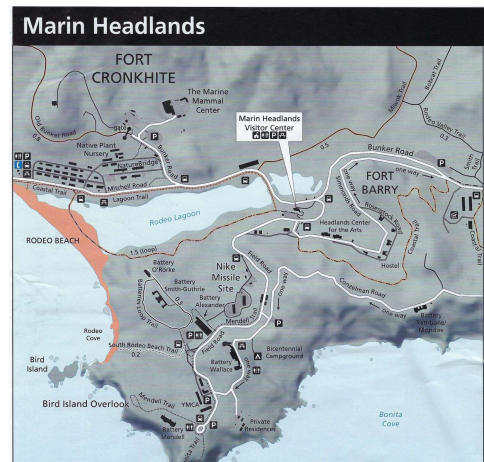
Contact Jerry Tusan with any questions: [jerry.tusan@maxsf.org](mailto:jerry.tusan@maxsf.org)

### **Guided Tour of Nike Missile Site**

**Saturday, October 7, 12pm-3pm** - Join event champions, Elie Abijaoude and Jim Tom for a fascinating guided tour of the Nike Missile Site SF 88 with an approximate 2 to 2.5 hour duration. Site is in the Marin Headlands in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. A Nike Veteran will provide a special tour for MAX that will take us back in history to learn about the nuclear arm race and America's defense during the Cold War. As the Cold War heated up in the early 1950s, a sense of imminent danger and fear of Soviet nuclear attack entered Americans' daily lives. In response, the US Army constructed a nationwide system of almost 300 Nike missile sites with radar directed Nike missiles carrying nuclear warheads to meet incoming Soviet aircraft. The Site SF 88 is the only site to be restored and opened to the public.

Tour is accompanied with full narrative and stories of personal experiences of a Nike Cold War veteran. Tour includes seeing: a Nike Hercules Missile under assembly and near completion in the assembly room; the fueling station and assembly area for the Ajax Missile, the first Surface to Air guided missile; integrated fire control - missile and target tracking; security procedures; nuclear protocols; launch area and missile magazine with complete Nike Hercules Missiles, and; demonstration of launch positioning. For more information on the Nike Missile site, go to: [go.nps.gov/nike](http://go.nps.gov/nike)





Meet at the Nike Missile Site. Google map location is: [RFGF+R2 Mill Valley, California](#)

Event is limited to 20 people. The tour is free, but you must register and pay a \$20 fee to reserve your spot. The reservation fee will be refunded at the tour. A waitlist will be made available for cancellations. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after September 30. Dues-paying MAX members shall have early priority for registration due to expected demand. Register by clicking on: <https://maxsf.org/event-5397622>

Pack a lunch! No food is available for sale there. We will eat lunch on-site during a break or after tour. For additional information, contact Jim Tom at: [jim.tom@maxsf.org](mailto:jim.tom@maxsf.org)

### **SF Music Day and Lunch**

**Sunday, October 15, Performances 12pm-7pm. Optional lunch at 12pm**  
Join MAX to attend the SF Music Day, a free, daylong music festival hosted in the center of San Francisco's arts and culture district. Founded 15 years ago, this event celebrates the diverse Bay Area music community where audiences can enjoy live music performances at the historic San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center. For more information, go to: <https://intermusicsf.org/sf-music-day/>



SF Music Day offers a staggering array of repertoire and styles. From chamber music to jazz, contemporary works to global sounds, the event showcases extraordinary musicians from across the Bay with music that spans continents and centuries. SF Music Day will feature 20 ensembles performing short sets over seven hours on four stages in the ornate War Memorial Veterans Building.

The event is free. It runs from 12-7pm. Attendees can go at anytime. For those interested in an optional lunch beforehand, we will meet at 12pm at a place TBD (most likely Max's Opera Cafe at 601 Van Ness) and then walk over there together. For the optional lunch, you must register and pay a \$20 fee to reserve your spot. The reservation fee will be refunded at lunch. A waitlist will be made available for cancellations should lunch spots fill up. NO REFUNDS for cancellations after October 10. Register by clicking on: <https://maxsf.org/event-5399905>

If you do not join us for lunch, we hope to see you inside at one of the performances. You can pick whatever performance you wish to see and just go to that stage. Seating is on a first come basis.

For additional information, contact Jim Tom at: [jim.tom@maxsf.org](mailto:jim.tom@maxsf.org)

### **Halloween Drag Party**

**Saturday, October 28, 5pm - 8pm** - MAX will host a Drag Party! You must come in some form of drag to be admitted. Please honor this request, so get your outfit and accessories ready! You will want to look fabulous! Dues paying MAX members will have first priority for registration. More details will follow later.

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**[Recap of Recent Events](#)**

**Outdoor BBQ Russian Hill** - On a warm and balmy Sunday afternoon, MAX hosted an outdoor BBQ in the lush parklike garden at the Russian Hill home of Dougg and Randy. Our MAX master chef Jerry grilled shrimp, chicken and beef sliders and had assorted salas, wine and beverages, fresh fruits and desserts for the guests. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and wine, and had time to catch up with old friends and meet new acquaintances. More photos are available in photo archives at: <https://maxsf.org/page-18159>



***Tina Turner Broadway Show*** - On August 27, 13 MAX went to the highly acclaimed award winning Tina Turner Broadway show. The night began with dinner at the nearby Mint restaurant. Everyone enjoyed the dinner and especially the show. The musical told the life story of one of the legendary Queens of Rock n' Roll, and featured many of her grammy award winning songs. The evening was thoroughly enjoyable. More photos are available in photo archives.



***Rosie the Riveter Museum, Walk and Lunch*** - MAXers enjoyed an informative movie and a discussion with a park ranger prior to our touring of an under-appreciated museum. Then we went for a nice walk and lunch along an attractive waterfront promenade.

