

The world's in bloom at SF Flower and Garden Show

Catch the free shuttle from Balboa Park BART to the show

Take the whole family to the 2007 San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, Wednesday, March 21 through Sunday, March 25 at the Cow Palace.

Leave your car at home and take BART to the show! Free shuttles from Balboa Park Station to the Cow Palace help you avoid traffic, parking and high gas prices. It's better for the environment, too—fewer emissions mean more fresh air for you and your flowers!



There's plenty for new and experienced garden lovers of all ages to do, see and

experience at California's only world class flower show. "Living and Loving the Garden Life" is this year's theme with inspiration and tips on entertaining in the garden, small space gardening and expanding one's living space into the garden.

Immerse yourself in the fragrance of thousands of flowers while taking in 23 full-size display gardens by the West's top designers; the Sunset seminar series with free "how to" demonstrations; a fun activity area for kids to learn about gardening; flower, orchid and bulb vendors; exhibits with unique plants; garden art and tools; and wine and beer gardens with live music.

For more information and tickets, visit www.gardenshow.com or call 800/569-2832.



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Spring is in the air...

We've all set our clocks an hour forward for daylight-saving time, the annual ritual that means spring is just around the corner.

Spring is a great time to be a resident of the Bay Area, full of sun and fun. Spring is also the time for many popular parades, festivals and community events. From St. Patrick's Day festivities, to Cesar Chavez holiday celebrations, to the many Asian Pacific American Heritage month events, we have an abundance of exciting things to see and do.

BART is proud to carry Bay Area residents to these events, helping you avoid traffic jams and high gas prices so you can focus on enjoying all the Bay Area has to offer.

San Francisco's Chinese New Year Parade earlier this month was a perfect example of this. BART carried about 75,000 more riders than usual on the day of the parade, keeping thousands of cars off the road and tons of pollution out of our air.

Be sure to get out and enjoy the great weather and great events this spring and, as always, don't forget to make BART part of your transportation plans.

Thomas E. Margro, General Manager

May the luck of the Irish be with you!

Take BART to St. Patrick's Day events in San Francisco, Dublin



You won't find any leprechauns if you're stuck in traffic. Take BART to all the best local St. Patrick's Day festivities.

The 155th annual San Francisco St. Patrick's Day Parade, Saturday, March 17, will be the largest of its kind west

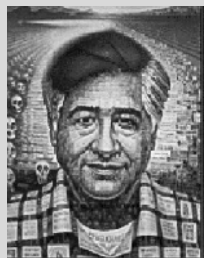
of the Mississippi, drawing participants from throughout the Bay Area and beyond.

Don't press your luck—take BART to the parade! Exit BART at the Montgomery Street, Powell Street or Civic Center stations to find your pot of gold.

The parade will begin at 11:30 a.m. at the corner of Second and Market, so don't miss your chance to be Irish for a day.

Get the Irish spirit and enjoy this cherished Irish tradition with liveliness unmatched anywhere else in the world.

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Parade and Festival mark Cesar Chavez holiday

Commemorate and celebrate the life and work of labor and civil rights leader Cesar Chavez on

Saturday, March 31 at San Francisco's Cesar Chavez Holiday Parade and Festival.

Take BART to the 24th Street Mission station to assemble for the parade at 11 a.m. at

24th and Potrero. The parade starts at Noon. The festival takes place at Everett Middle School at 450 Church Street from 1-5 p.m.

Visit cesarchavezday.org or call 415/621-2665 for more information. To plan your trip, use the online QuickPlanner at bart.gov.

AirBART shuttle fare increase



If you're planning on using the AirBART shuttle service from the Coliseum/Oakland Airport BART station to Oakland International Airport, please take note that the Port of Oakland has raised fares, effective Thursday, March 1.

Regular fares will increase from \$2.00 to \$3.00. Senior/Children/Disabled fares will increase from \$0.50 to \$1.00. This is the first fare increase since 1985.

The fare change will offset the cost of purchasing new buses and increasing service to accommodate higher ridership.

The AirBART shuttle service is operated by Port of Oakland contractor ShuttlePort. AirBART revenues and expenses are split between the Port and BART.

"St. Patrick's Day" continued

The fun doesn't stop at the end of the parade. The party is just getting started at the Family Festival at the Civic Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Music, performers and traditional Irish food and drink will abound.

For info visit sfstpatricksdaysparade.com or call 415/675-9885. Plan your trip using bart.gov's simple online QuickPlanner.

You can also take BART to Dublin/Pleasanton Station for the City of Dublin's St. Patrick's Day Festival Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18.

Exit the BART station towards Dublin and catch the free WHEELS shuttle to and from the festival at the Dublin Civic Center.

The Irish food and fun begins at 10 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. both days. For info visit dublinstpat.com.

Don't forget to wear your green! Erin go bragh!



GOOD TIMES

Bricktop

Lorraine Hansberry Theatre
620 Sutter St. at Mason, San Francisco
415/474-8800

BART: Powell St., 4-block walk

March 15-April 15: This African-American-focused theater presents a musical tapestry of the lives of three women who profoundly influenced the jazz/cabaret world of the 1920s and '30s, and its musical legacy.



SFJazz Spring Season

Herbst Theatre shows
401 Van Ness near McAllister, San Francisco
www.sfjazz.org or 800/225-2277

BART: Civic Center

Through April 7: SFJazz presents a series of performances at this BART-accessible venue (check website for performances elsewhere). **March 11:** "Monk and Beyond." **March 17:** Congo Caliente with Poncho Sanchez. **March 18:** Dave Holland Quintet. **March 31:** An Evening with Dianne Reeves. **April 1:** Anoushka Shankar. **April 6:** Ben Riley's Monk Legacy Band; Geri Allen Trio. **April 7:** Freddy Cole; Madeline Eastman (plus family matinee with Madeline Eastman).



Blood Wedding

Shotgun Players
The Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley
www.shotgunplayers.org or 510/841-6500

BART: Ashby, two-block walk

March 21-April 29: Garcia Lorca's work exposes the raw, visceral nature of passion. Which is worse – to betray your heart or to betray the one who loves you?

Space is the Place

Bedford Gallery
Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts
1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek
www.bedfordgallery.org or 925/295-1417

BART: Walnut Creek

Through May 27: An international group of artists examines the theme of space exploration – its infinite potential, as well as its historic successes and failures.

Lewis and Clark Revisited – a Trail in Modern Day

Hayward Area Historical Society
22701 Main St., Hayward
www.haywardareahistory.org or 510/581-0223

BART: Hayward, 3-block walk

Through June 2: Local resident and photographer Greg MacGregor followed in the 19th-century footsteps of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they searched for the Northwest Passage, chronicling his (and their) journey on film. The exhibition pairs MacGregor's photographs with journal entries from the Lewis and Clark diaries, showing the transformation of the land and its people.



Free compost giveaway

Berkeley Community Gardening Collaborative
Saturday Berkeley Farmers Market
Center Street at Martin Luther King Jr. Way
www.ecologycenter.org or 510/548-2220 x233

BART: Downtown Berkeley, one-block walk
Saturday, March 31: Come shop at the Farmers' Market and pick up free compost. Bring your own container – two buckets or large garbage bags are suggested. (This event is intended for backyard amateur gardeners, not professionals.)

Question of the Month

I've heard that high-school students can ride BART at reduced rates.

What is the discount and how do I get it?

BART's Teen X-trem Teenage Student Discount Program allows middle school and high school students ages 13 through 18 to ride BART between home and school, as well as to school-related activities, Monday through Friday at a 50% discount. The special orange ticket is not valid on weekends.

For \$16, students can purchase a ticket good for \$32 worth of rides, plus a "last ride bonus." Tickets are available exclusively through schools. To participate, schools can call 510/464-6406 for an enrollment package and details on usage and restrictions.

