

EXPERT PICKS

We've searched the Springs high and low — these are the hidden gems we've found.



AJIA'S PICK
LOUIE LOUIE'S PIANO BAR
 522 S. Tejon St.
www.louielouiespianobar.com

If you're looking for an unforgettable night out, head over to Louie Louie's Piano Bar on Tejon Street. At this lively dueling piano bar, exceptionally talented musicians perform popular songs upon request. The song request process matches the unique vibe of this musical bar — simply write a song title on a napkin, place it on one of the pianos and, in no time, your request will come to life. Whether you want to hear "Piano Man" or "Hot To Go!," this spot will deliver on a memorable experience.



Hillside Gardens is a scenic, hilltop wedding venue close to downtown. When it's not time to tie the knot, it's time to boogie. The Wednesday night summer concert series is a can't-miss: music under the stars with friends and strangers-turned-friends, plus a beer, wine or cocktail from the eclectic bars spread across the lush, green space.

It's become a tradition epitomizing summertime in Colorado Springs. Get there early because the place is known to max out capacity. Admission last summer was \$18.

SETH'S PICK
HILLSIDE GARDENS
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
 1006 S. Institute St.
hillsidecolorado.com



In the heat of summer, escape to Green Box Arts Festival to experience nationally known names in dance, art and music as they offer exhibits, performances and classes during the two-week festival. Close to 150 events and activities are on tap, including short films, hikes and art classes. Many are free. Advice: Make reservations. The festival was founded in 2009 by Larry

Keigwin, artistic director of a professional dance company, and Christian Keesee, chairman of the Kirkpatrick Foundation.

JEN'S PICK
GREEN BOX ARTS FESTIVAL
 June 27-July 12, Green Mountain Falls
greenboxarts.org



SPENCER'S PICK
FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK
 5-8 p.m. every first Friday
shopoldcoloradocity.com

Old Colorado City has long been one of my favorite pockets in Colorado Springs — and there's no better time to experience this vibrant neighborhood than during

First Friday Art Walk. Find creations from more than 100 local artists in more than a dozen art galleries — with much of the art rich in Colorado vibes. Couple the art walk experience with a stop at a certain speakeasy wine bar you'll find "Upstairs" in one of the historic buildings. A trip here is the perfect way to kick off the weekend.