

New Bedford CitiWork Neighborhood Improvement Mini-Grants

On Wednesday, March 16, through the Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD), the city of New Bedford launched CitiWorks, a neighborhood improvement mini-grant program for eligible neighborhoods city-wide.



The program provides seed grants of up to \$2,000 to neighborhood and community organizations. The grants must be used to plan and implement projects that improve the quality of life for people living in low and moderate-income neighborhoods throughout New Bedford.

Examples of potential projects include landscaping and beautification to areas of public access, community gardens, tree planting, and neighborhood signs. Projects can be sited either on private land—as long as the site is visible and accessible to all neighborhood residents—or on memorial squares, portions of city parks, or other public lands, pending city approval. Existing community gardens and pocket parks are also eligible.

The goals of the program are to promote healthier, safer, and cleaner neighborhoods; to improve neighborhood appearance; to encourage neighborhood residents to engage in bettering their environment; to demonstrate collaboration with community groups and organizations; to develop leadership within the neighborhood; and to enhance partnerships between community organizations and the city.

“The most successful community programs and initiatives are those that arise out of collaborations between the city of New Bedford and neighborhood residents,” said Mayor Scott W. Lang. “We believe this kind of neighborhood-based programming represents a wise investment of precious CDBG resources.”



Eligible applicants include neighborhood and community groups; youth, parent or senior groups; volunteer groups and clubs; neighborhood watch groups; and school-based groups. Applicants must have a federal 501©(3) designation, or work with an organization who does.

For more information about CitiWorks, please call the Office of Housing and Community Development at (508) 979-1500.

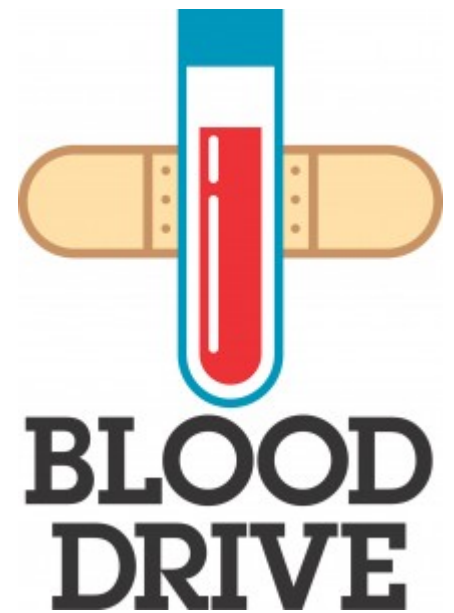
George H. Taber Masonic Lodge Community Blood Drive

Roll up your sleeves and join us in giving the gift of life! On Monday, March 28, a community blood drive will be held from noon-5 P.M. at the Unitarian Memorial Church, which is located at 102 Green Street in Fairhaven. The church is wheelchair accessible.

This blood drive is a cooperative effort between the American Red Cross, the George H. Taber Masonic Lodge, and the Unitarian Memorial Church in Fairhaven. The goal is to collect blood for those in need of transfusions. Every two seconds someone in the United States needs blood, and each

pint that is donated could save up to three lives. In return for donating a pint of blood, donors will receive a coupon for a free lunch from Cumberland Farms.

The American Red Cross has been a primary supplier of lifesaving blood products in the United States for more than 50 years. They donate approximately 3,000 units of blood each day just to meet the basic needs of area patients. Individuals who are at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements. The state of Massachusetts allows those who are 16 years of age to donate blood with parental consent. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate. If you would like to schedule an appointment to donate, please call **1-800-RED CROSS** or visit **www.redcrossblood.org**.



George H. Taber Masonic Lodge (which is located in Fairhaven) is part of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, which is the largest donor of blood to the American Red Cross within the state of Massachusetts. Freemasonry is the world's oldest and largest fraternity, and there are presently over five million members worldwide in over 150 countries. Freemasonry accepts men of all faiths (a belief in a supreme being is required) and backgrounds, and promotes self-improvement through leadership, friendship, and service to others.

Freemasonry often focuses on charitable endeavors aimed towards improving the community and humanity in general. You can find out more about George H. Taber Lodge on their Facebook and Twitter pages. You can also contact Matthew R.

Brodeur, who is the Awareness Officer at the George H. Taber Masonic Lodge. His phone number is (774) 263-5018, and his email address is: matthewbrodeur@gmail.com.

Bone Marrow Drive for Chloe Harding



By Adam
DiOrio

Back in January, New Bedford Guide did a story on Chloe Harding, a baby from Rochester who was diagnosed with leukemia at just four-months-old. Since that time, Chloe has gone through several rounds of chemotherapy, many lumbar punctures and bone marrow tests, in addition to receiving numerous blood and platelet transfusions. Despite this, Chloe has proven that she is a fighter, and while she has some bad days, she is still full of smiles and has an amazingly wonderful disposition.

While she and her family battle this disease in the hospital, the citizens of Rochester and the surrounding towns have banded together to help the Hardings in any way they can. The Chloe's Night Benefit Dinner, which took place at the Highlander in Acushnet, was an unbelievable success. I attended this event, and can tell you first hand that the turnout was nothing short of astounding. The parking lot was packed, as was the street on both sides. People were jammed

inside, buying tickets for the 50/50 raffle, donating checks, and buying t-shirts, all in support of this brave little girl. Officially, there were over 450 people in attendance. The eventual winner of the 50/50 raffle even ended up giving all the money to the Hardings. It was quite a night.



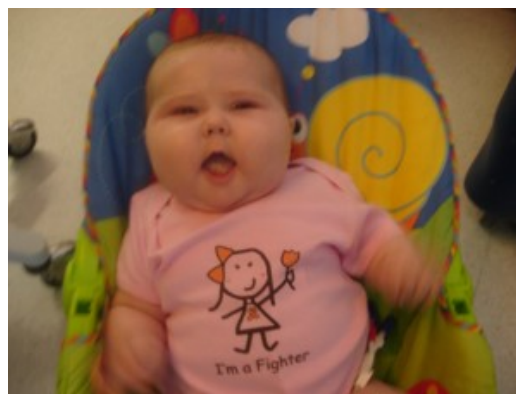
Chloe Harding earlier this year.

Other fundraisers have included a spaghetti dinner, which was attended by 150 people, 58 players and 50 bystanders at a poker tournament, and all 430 tickets to the Rochester Fire Department's Smiles for Chloe Comedy event at the Hawthorne Country Club on April 9th have been sold! A recent blood drive in Rochester yielded roughly 60 pints of blood, which is crucial to Chloe's treatment. Additionally, another poker tournament will take place at Cafe Funchal on April 29th. For tickets to that event, please call Paula Church at (508) 728-3722. And as always, you can visit the Chloe Harding Fund website and donate there.

Yet even with all the fundraisers, there is something Chloe needs that money can't buy. Chloe needs bone marrow. Bone marrow isn't universally with all humans, meaning that, somewhat like blood, different people need different types of marrow. In order for Chloe's body to be able to use another person's bone marrow, that person has to be a match for Chloe.

High doses of chemotherapy or radiation destroy not only cancer cells, but also bone marrow, which is rich in blood-forming stem cells. In order to replace damaged marrow, stem cells are harvested from either the blood or the bone marrow of the cancer patient before therapy, or from a genetically compatible donor. In order to remove unwanted cells from that sample, such as Chloe's leukemia cells, it is incubated with antibodies that bind only to stem cells, and then infused back into the patient's body. Once in the bloodstream, the stem cells travel to the bone marrow, where they implant themselves and begin producing healthy cells.

In order to test for compatibility, a cheek swab is taken from each potential donor. Then, doctors look for a donor who matches their patient's tissue type, specifically their human leukocyte antigen (HLA) tissue type. HLAs are proteins – or markers – found on most cells in your body. Your immune system uses these markers to recognize which cells belong in your body and which do not. The closer the match between the patient's HLA markers and yours, the better for the patient.



A more recent picture of Chloe.

Bone marrow donation is not something to take lightly. It involves a surgical procedure that you can read about [here](#). Also of note is the fact that even if you are not a donor match for Chloe, you may be for someone else. If you are found to be a match, more testing will be done to see if you are the best possible match for the patient. Another cheek

swab or blood sample may be required, and you proceed with the donation, you will be able to learn some information about the person you are donating to, including the patient's age, gender, and the disease they are being treated for.

If you are selected as the best donor for the patient, an information session will be scheduled to inform you on the donation process, risks and side effects. At that time, you will be told what type of donation the patient's doctor has requested – either bone marrow or cells collected from the blood, called peripheral blood stem cell (PBSC).

Here are some quick facts to consider before you make this very important decision.

- You must be between 18 and 60 years of age.
- You must be willing to donate if you become a match for another recipient in the Donor Registry.
- You need to fall within the healthy guidelines. The weight chart and list of automatic deferrals can be found at [here](#).

The Bone Marrow Drive to find a possible match for Chloe is set for April 10, 2011, between 1 P.M. and 5 P.M. It will take place at:



Click this image to get a better look at the process for transplanting bone marrow.

First Congregational Church
7 Constitution Way
Rochester, Ma 02770

No set appointment is needed, although they need to have a head count so the coordinators of The Dana Farber Cancer Institute Donor Program can plan accordingly.

Please consider giving the ultimate gift and become a donor candidate for Chloe or another recipient. We need as many volunteers as possible. Please bring your insurance card, as many Massachusetts Insurance companies will cover the cost HLA (Human Leukocyte Antigen) Testing. If you do not have insurance, or your insurance does not cover the testing, you will **NOT** be required to pay.

If you are willing to be tested and put on the National Marrow Registry list, please use the following contacts. They will need your name, phone number, and email address. If you are already in the National Donor Registry, please DO NOT test again. If you are a match, they will find you.

Mike Daniel

(508)-789-7104- Please leave a message if there is no answer.
mikshe@aol.com

Marjorie Skrutski

Facebook – Marjorie Skrutski

(508)-763-8373 – Please leave a message if there is no answer.
mskrutski@gmail.com

City of New Bedford Summer Job Applications

Job applications for the City of New Bedford's Seasonal Training & Employment Program (STEP) for the summer of 2011 are now available at New Bedford City Hall in the Personnel Department (Room 212), or online at www.newbedford-ma.gov.



The application forms, a complete list of open positions, as well as job descriptions and their requirements are available here. Positions are available with the Summer Day Program, Summer Food Service Program/Parks & Playgrounds and Beach Operations.

Interested applicants are asked to submit their applications to the Personnel Department. The application deadline is May 3, 2011, and the City of New Bedford does have a residency requirement.

For more information please visit www.newbedford-ma.gov, or call (508)-979-1444.

Sailors' Series Lecture: Modern Piracy

Commander Andrew J. Norris, USCG, will examine modern piracy in the next *Sailors' Series* lecture on Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 P.M. in the Cook Memorial Theater inside the New Bedford Whaling Museum. In his presentation, Cdr. Norris will include statistics, problem areas, and the international response to piracy, as well as review self-defense rules that apply to

U.S.-flag merchant vessels.



Modern pirates from Somalia.

Cdr. Norris is a member of the faculty of the U.S. Naval War College, serving as the United States Coast Guard representative to the International Law Department staff. He reported to the college in August 2010 as the Staff Judge Advocate for the Fourteenth Coast Guard District, after completing a four-year tour in Honolulu which encompasses 12.2 million square miles of the western and central Pacific Ocean.

Prior to that, from 2002-2006, Cdr. Norris was an assistant professor of law at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. From 1998-2002, he was a marine casualty investigator at the Marine Safety Office New Orleans. His first tour of duty in the Coast Guard, from 1994-1998, was as a staff attorney at the Coast Guard Maintenance and Logistics Command, Norfolk, Virginia.

He also served a four-year tour as a Navy division officer from 1985-1989 aboard the USS KIDD (DDG 993). During that tour, he qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer. Cdr. Norris is also a collateral-duty Coast Guard military judge. As such, he presides over special courts-martial of Coast Guard personnel throughout the country.

Sailors' Series admission: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. To reserve tickets, please call 508-997-0046 ext. 100. A pre-lecture reception at 6:30 p.m. will be held in the

Jacobs Family Gallery.

Sailors' Series lectures continue on April 26 and May 24 and are sponsored by C.E. Beckman Co. and Citizens~Union Savings Bank.

Huntington's Disease Hoop-a-Thon



By Adam
DiOrio

It was at some point during my Little League years that I noticed the mother of my friend, Jeremy Peck, was attending the games less frequently. In a small town it is easy to notice the comings and goings of everybody, and Rochester was no different. Other parents sporadically attended games, but for reasons like they had to work late, or they liked to drink, or maybe they just weren't around at all anymore. Jeremy's case was different. I didn't know it at the time, but fast forward to high school when the truth of the absence of his mother became clear. She was sick with a disease, one that I still have trouble comprehending to this day.

Huntington's Disease (HD) is:

"...a devastating, hereditary, degenerative brain disorder for which there is, at present, no cure. HD slowly diminishes the affected individual's ability to walk, talk and reason.

Eventually, the person with HD becomes totally dependent upon others for his or her care. Huntington's Disease profoundly affects the lives of entire families – emotionally, socially and economically.

Early symptoms of Huntington's Disease may affect cognitive ability or mobility. As the disease progresses, concentration and short-term memory diminish and involuntary movements of the head, trunk and limbs increase. Walking, speaking and swallowing abilities deteriorate. Eventually the person is unable to care for him or herself.

HD typically begins in mid-life, between the ages of 30 and 50, though onset may occur as early as the age of 2. Children who develop the juvenile form of the disease rarely live to adulthood.

HD affects males and females equally and crosses all ethnic and racial boundaries. Each child of a person with HD has a 50/50 chance of inheriting the fatal gene. Everyone who carries the gene will develop the disease. In 1993, the HD gene was isolated and a direct genetic test developed which can accurately determine whether a person carries the HD gene. The test cannot predict when symptoms will begin. However, in the absence of a cure, some individuals 'at risk' elect not to take the test."

The effect HD has on the family cannot be understated. Each year Jeremy participates in the Huntington Disease Society of America's Hoop-a-Thon, to help raise money in order to study, and hopefully discover, a cure for this disease. This year's event takes place in Lexington, MA, but donations can come from anywhere. Please consider giving to this cause: with no cure or treatment currently available, Huntington's is a disease that influences not just the person who has it, but their family members, present and future.

**HDSA MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER
HOOP-A-THON**

**March 26, 2011, 9 A.M.-4 P.M.
Lexington High School**

Lexington, Massachusetts

***Has something for all ages and athletic abilities so help us
shoot for a cure!***

9:00 AM – 12 NOON: 3 on 3 Tournament



This year we have added a NEW 3 on 3 Tournament

***The winning team receives a trophy, Blue Man Group tickets,
and sportswear.***

In our 3 on 3 tournament shoot for a cure in teams of 3 or 4!

- v Select your team of 3 (optional, each team may have 4 players/subs allowed)***
- v Must be 18 years old to participate***
- v The tournament will be limited to the first 16 teams to sign up.***
- v Single elimination tournament, the finalists will play four total games.***
- v E-mail your team name and team members (include the age of each team member) with the captain's phone number and e-mail address to steveyoung@wxrv.com.***

For more details on this tournament download a 3 on 3 flyer from our website at www.hdsa-ne.org

12 NOON – 4:00 PM: Free Throw Contest

Simply register, get your family, friends, coworkers, teachers, ANYONE to pledge you and take as many Free Throw Shots as possible in 5 minutes.



A group photo from last year's Hoop-a-Thon.

Sink the most baskets and win a weekend night stay in a king suite with a city view at the Liberty Hotel !!! Other prizes include Celtics Tickets Loge seats, an autographed copy of "When the Game was Ours" by author Jackie MacMullan, Personal Training sessions @ Accelerated Fitness in Lexington, Gift Cards to local merchants and so much more. Come out, register and raise pledges!

Go to www.firstgiving.com/HDSA-MA/Event/massachusettshoop-a-thon or download info for our hoop at www.hdsa-ne.org. Please note: If you register and log out firstgiving will email a code for you to use when you log back in to set up your fundraising page.

Back by popular demand! Knockout games are back!!! There will be TWO, the first at 1:30 PM and the second at 3:00 PM. You do not need to register for the knock out games. We will have great prizes for the winners, you won't be disappointed! There is a \$10 entry fee.

So what are you waiting for? Come and enjoy music by DJ Paul Harvey, taste our yummy treats at our bake sale or try your luck at winning one of our incredible raffles: including a 50/50.

*Sadly, Jeremy's mother Pamela passed away on March 11th due to complications of Huntington's Disease. To support Jeremy's fund raising efforts, please **CLICK HERE** to go directly to his donation page.*

Men Who Cook Party with Celebrity Guest Chefs



Click to Enlarge!

Don't miss the 2nd Annual **Men Who Cook Party** with Mayor Lang and Celebrity Guest Chefs! We've added live entertainment by Living on a Bad Name, a Bon Jovi Tribute – as well as some great raffle prizes. The Catwalk is preparing delicious food and our chefs will be serving up some great fun! All proceeds benefit programs and services at The Women's Center.

Celebrity guests include Mayor Lang, State Rep. Tony Cabral, State Rep. Chris Markey, City Councilors Brian Gomes, Denis Lawrence, Joe Lopes and Steve Martins, Police Chief Ron Teachman, FUN107 Morning Show Hosts J.R. and Michael Rock, WBSM Mid-Morning Magazine Host Phil Paleologos, WBSM Hosts Ken Pittman, Pete Braley...and many more!

You can purchase tickets online through The Women's Center

website. Just fill out the donation form (\$25 per ticket) and type "Celebrity Chefs" in the comment box. We will mail your tickets or hold them at the door. You may also call me at (508)-996-3343- Ext. 25, for tickets or further information. www.thewomenscentersc.com

Date: March 25

Time: 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Where: Catwalk Bar & Grille
34 Union Street, New Bedford

\$25 donation per ticket

Tickets are available in advance at:

Catwalk Bar & Grille

Hibernia Irish Pub

The Shawmut Diner

The Women's Center

Tickets are also available at the door.

Book Signing with Author Wendy Williams

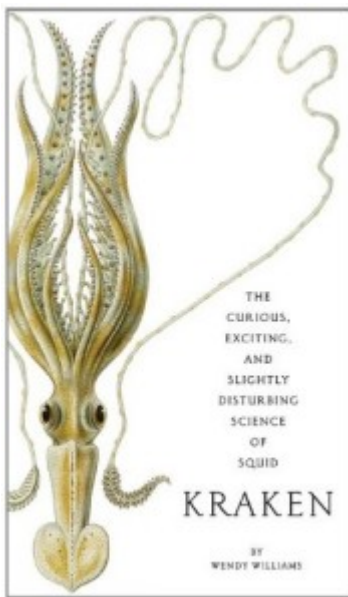


Author
Wendy
Williams

Author Wendy Williams will be at the Ocean Explorium on Saturday, March 19 at 3 P.M. She will be reading excerpts and

signing copies of her new book, *Kraken: The Curious, Exciting, and Slightly Disturbing Science of Squid*.

For hundreds of years, squid (giant, colossal, and otherwise) have been demonized as mysterious monsters of the deep. Even today they maintain that same mystique, but scientists are gradually discovering some of their long-hidden secrets. Squid have been the source of some of medicine's most important breakthroughs; without them, neurosurgeons would be a little less well trained, obstetricians a little less well-informed, and geriatricians much less knowledgeable about the aging process. Squid may help lead scientists to a cure for Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, assist in the development of new antibiotics, and boost the health of babies born by cesarean section.



Kraken introduces us to this enigmatic and curious inhabitant of the sea. The pages take the reader on a wild narrative ride through the worlds of science and adventure, along the way addressing some riddles about what intelligence is, what strange creatures live in the deep, and even how the human brain works. *Kraken* is the traditional name for gigantic sea monsters, and this book examines squid and other equally charismatic cephalopods, including the octopus and the cuttlefish, and explores their otherworldly

camouflage and bioluminescence abilities. Accessible and entertaining, *Kraken* is the first substantial volume on this subject in more than a decade, and is a must for fans of popular science.

Wendy Williams' writing has appeared on the front pages of *The Boston Globe*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *The Baltimore Sun*. She has also written for *The New York Times*, *Parade Magazine*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Williams is the coauthor of *Cape Wind*, which was named one of 2007's Ten Best

Environmental Books by *Booklist*, and one of the year's best science books by *Library Journal*. Williams lives on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

The Ocean Explorium is located at 174 Union Street in New Bedford and is handicap accessible through the rear entrance. Call 508.994.5400 for after-hours access.

<http://www.localoracle.com/events/location/ocean-explorium/>

Gina Cerrito to Speak at Ocean Explorium to GIRLS

The Ocean Explorium welcomes Gina Cerrito as this week's speaker in the series **Girls Interested in Real Life Science (GIRLS)**. Ms. Cerrito is a Marine Educator with the New England Aquarium in Boston.



Ms. Cerrito holds a Masters of Education degree in Museum Education and completed an internship at the New England Aquarium prior to becoming a full-time staff member. Her responsibilities range from professional teacher development to managing a national climate change grant. As the coordinator of the Women in Science program, Ms. Cerrito has been able to introduce a new generation to a wide variety of marine careers.

The Ocean Explorium, with generous support from the Women's Fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern

Massachusetts, presents the third annual speaker series aimed at promoting the “STEM” subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to girls and young women.

The **Girls Interested in Real Life Science (GIRLS)** series runs each Thursday in March. Formerly named Women in Science + Engineering (WiSE), the series features inspiring speakers drawn from professions wherein the STEM subjects play a major role.

The series continues with:



March 17: Gina Cerrito, Marine Educator with New England Aquarium

March 24: Faith Ball, Engineer with Lockheed Martin Sippican

March 31: Rhonda Moniz, Dive Safety Instructor, Entrepreneur

Doors open at 5:00 P.M. each Thursday in March for refreshments and mingling in the Ocean Explorium before the talks begin at 5:30 P.M. This series is free and open to the public thanks to the support of the Women’s Fund.

Girls and boys in grades 5 – 12 are encouraged to attend. Students will receive a special pin to indicate attendance at each week’s event. The Ocean Explorium is happy to work with local educators so students can earn extra credit. Contact Abbey Spargo if you would like to arrange a more formal program.

The Ocean Explorium is located at 174 Union Street in downtown

New Bedford and is handicap accessible via the rear entrance. Call 508.994.5400 for after-hours access. For more information, contact Abbey Spargo at aspargo@oceanexplorium.org or 508.994.5400, or visit the Ocean Explorium website at www.oceanexplorium.org.

Natalia Zukerman at the Zeiterion's On Stage Folk Cafe

Natalia Zukerman will present an evening of folk, blues and roots music as part of the Zeiterion's On Stage Folk Café on Thursday, March 24. Showtime is at 7:30 P.M. Alan and Helene Korolenko (Artistic Directors of the New Bedford Summerfest) are presenting these intimate evenings with the finest folk and acoustic performers. You will join Natalia Zukerman and future performers in the series right on the Zeiterion stage for an evening of great music. The Folk Café is sponsored by New England Medical Associates.

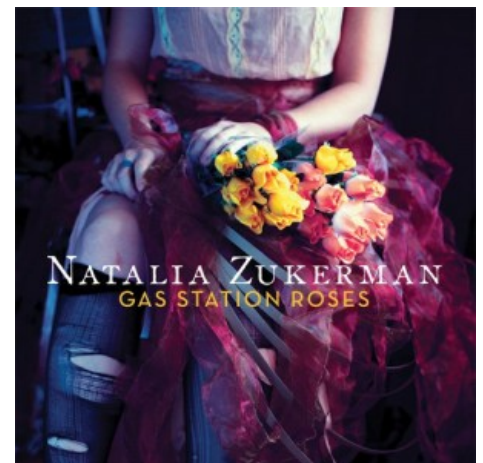


With diverse musical influences that include folk, jazz, blues, rock, bluegrass, country and even classical, Natalia Zukerman has been described as “an example of the finest Americana.” She combines her unique slide guitar playing style with seductive vocals, unapologetic writing, a painter’s observing eye, and sharp wit. Zukerman’s music is as riddled with urban restlessness as it is grounded in rootsy warmth – a

welcome contradiction.

The daughter of classical musicians Eugenia and Pinchas Zukerman, Natalia found her sound in other strings – those on slide guitar, lap steel guitar, and Dobro. The subject matter of her music ranges from the whimsical to the metaphysical. Often she tells stories or relates personal observations about life and relationships, but despite this, her songs are not confessional in nature. Zukerman plays a variety of guitars, including acoustic, electric, slide guitar, Dobro, lap steel guitar and banjo, but primarily focuses on her Goodall acoustic guitar and vintage 1938 Rickenbacker lap steel guitar. Her vocal style reflects strong jazz influences, and she is acclaimed for her dexterity and nimble fingers on the guitar.

Natalia Zukerman's new album, *Gas Station Roses*, exemplifies her electric, acoustic and lap steel guitar playing while featuring guest appearances by performers from many walks of independent music – including Patty Larkin and Ray Bonneville. An album about seeing and being who you truly are, *Gas Station Roses* is peppered with a rich array of sounds – everything from the rock anthem “As You Are,” to Americana blues laments like “Gas Station Roses.” From NuGrass shuffle songs like “Howard Hughes,” to the heartfelt love song “Always,” and pure, undoctored folk songs like “Little Bird.” According to *The New Yorker Magazine*, “Natalia's voice could send an orchid into bloom, while her guitar playing can open a beer bottle with its teeth.”



So join Natalia Zukerman on Thursday, March 24, at 7:30pm in the new, intimate On Stage Folk Café at the Zeiterion Theater. Tickets are \$15, and may be purchased at the

Zeiterion box office or online by clicking [here](#). Also, don't forget to become a fan of the On Stage Folk Café on Facebook.