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## Arts and Culture

The **Pend Oreille Arts Council** (POAC) is the centerpiece for most things cultural in Sandpoint. This nonprofit organization was founded in 1978 with the mission of presenting quality arts and humanities programs for regional audiences. POAC stages such events as the Annual Arts and Crafts Fair held at City Beach in August and the POAC Performance Series in the winter. ([www.artinsandpoint.org](http://www.artinsandpoint.org))

**Arts Alliance:** The mission of The Arts Alliance is to stimulate, enhance and develop the arts in the northern Idaho region via partnerships, awareness and education. Through classes, workshops and special events the Arts Alliance plays an integral role in the art community of Sandpoint. Its philosophy is that art experiences are essential for the overall health and well being of the community and the individual citizen. The Alliance values human expression, originality, and quality. ([www.artsalliance.info](http://www.artsalliance.info))

**ArtWalk:** Sandpoint is lucky to have so many art galleries featuring works from local, nationally renowned artists. ArtWalk is a self-guided art tour that takes place in the summer. The public can take this walk through downtown Sandpoint to view art exhibits at participating retailers and galleries. Maps may be picked up at participating businesses, at the Pend Oreille Arts Council Office or at the Chamber of Commerce. ([www.artinsandpoint.org/artwalk.html](http://www.artinsandpoint.org/artwalk.html))

**Festival at Sandpoint:** For two weeks each summer, Memorial Park on the shores of Pend Oreille River is transformed into a spectacular concert venue. The nonprofit concert series offers an eclectic selection of music. Artists such as Warren Zevon, Lyle Lovett, Natalie Cole, Johnny Cash, David Grey, Buddy Guy, Tony Bennett and the Spokane Symphony. Have performed. ([www.festivalatsandpoint.com](http://www.festivalatsandpoint.com))

**Panida Theater:** This Spanish mission-style theater was built in 1927. The Panida was originally a vaudeville and movie theater. It plays host to movies, plays and performances staged by some of the biggest names in music and drama as well as talented members of the community. The theater is on the national register of historic places and has been community owned since 1985, after a local fund-raising effort to save the theater from demolition. ([www.panida.org](http://www.panida.org))

**Bonner County Historical Museum:** Pioneer relics and other historical items chronicle the past with emphasis on the Kootenai Indians and the local lumber industry. The museum is dedicated to preserving the people and stories of Bonner County. ([www.bonnercountyhistory.org](http://www.bonnercountyhistory.org))

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Administrative Offices and Visitor Center

231 North Third Avenue ▪ P.O. Box 928 ▪ Sandpoint, Idaho 83864

p. 800.800.2106 or 208.263.2161 ▪ f. 208.265.5289 ▪ [SandpointChamber.com](http://SandpointChamber.com) ▪ [info@sandpointchamber.com](mailto:info@sandpointchamber.com)



**Priest Lake Museum and Visitor's Center:** The center, constructed in 1935 by The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is a prime example of handcrafted oil-treated tamarack (larch) log construction. The building initially served as a residence and office for the first Ranger on what was then Kaniksu National Forest. The museum houses numerous articles and displays that depict the colorful history of the lake and the surrounding area.

[www.priestlake.org/attraction/museum](http://www.priestlake.org/attraction/museum)

**Artists' Studio Tours:** In August, drive the scenic roads of the greater Sandpoint area and visit artists working studios tucked away in the forest or on the shore of the lake. The tour is free to the public and is a self-guided tour. Maps/brochures are available at participating studios and at the Chamber of Commerce. Most studios are available for touring after the tour by appointment only.

[www.sandpoint.org/arttourdrive](http://www.sandpoint.org/arttourdrive)

**Bird Aviation Museum and Invention Center (opened 2008)**

Drs Forrest & Pamela Bird are residents of Sandpoint and recipient of the Presidential Citizens Medal (2008). He invented life saving medical equipment, and has founded a museum in Sandpoint that educates children and adults about inventions. The museum showcases his fleet of airplanes and motorcade. This museum is worth seeing for all ages.

[www.birdaviationmuseum.com](http://www.birdaviationmuseum.com)

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