

Downtown Offers Unique Valentine's Day Gifts

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. With over 25 unique shops and a variety of personal services in Downtown Albany, you'll find plenty of thoughtful and delightful options to make your sweetheart feel special.

From handmade treasures and trendy apparel to local art, gourmet treats, and rejuvenating experiences, there's something for everyone. Whether you're shopping for the perfect gift or planning a pampering experience, Downtown Albany has you covered.

Here's a look at some standout shopping spots and services grouped by specialty to inspire your Valentine's Day planning.

Clothing, Accessories & Jewelry

For stylish gifts, check out **Emma Downtown** and **Reds Boutique** for women's clothing and gifts, or **The Natty Dresser**, where you'll find men's apparel, hats and shoes for a polished look. **1st Hand Seconds Unique Bou-**



tique and **Urban on 1st** both offer curated selections of gently used women's clothing and accessories. For sparkling gifts, visit **Jordan Jewelers** or **Sid Stevens Jewelers**, known for custom designs and fine jewelry that's sure to dazzle.

Art, Furniture & Home Décor

Browse unique art and handmade goods at **Gallery Calapooia**, artist co-op featuring everything from jewelry to greeting cards. **The Frame House** is perfect for custom and stock frames to preserve special memories. **Weathered Together Market** offers a blend of gifts, home goods, clothing, and more. For those seeking furnishings, **Boda Furniture** offers unique pieces and hundreds of custom fabric choices while **Sawmill Unfinished Furniture** features both finished and unfinished pieces.

Books, History & Local Treasures

For history buffs and book lovers, the **Albany Regional Museum Book Corner** offers a curated selection of local and regional history books. The **Monteith House Gift Shop** provides historic-themed toys, books and gifts for those who appreciate a nod to the past.

Sweet Treats & Fun Finds

Delight your sweetie with classic candy and bottled soda from **Sugarheroes Candy Bar** or spoil your furry friend with gifts and treats from **Sniffany's Pet Boutique**. The **Albany Historic Carousel Gift Shop** offers playful souvenirs, puzzles and plush toys that are perfect for



whimsical Valentine's surprises. Check out the cookies at **Daily Energy**.

Fabric, Beads & Creative Gifts

For creative souls, **The Quilt Loft** is a go-to for fabric and laser-cut kits. **Brigitte's Place Fine Fabrics** provide fashion fabrics, notions and sewing classes to inspire one-of-a-kind creations. **Spearit Beads** specializes in beads, chains and custom jewelry-making supplies.

Specialty Stores & Unique Gifts

Urban Ag Supply offers a charming mix of houseplants, Oregon-sourced foods and gifts, while **Cronies Vintage & Antique Emporium** and **Albany Antique Mall** boast an infinite selection of antiques and collectibles. Have some fun with a new board from **Stoked 2 Sk8**. For disk golf and Hydroflasks visit **No-D-Lay Shoe Shop**.

Personal Services

Pamper your loved one with thoughtful experiences. **BodyworX Physical & Healing Wellness** offers nutritional muscle testing and myofascial release for holistic care. **Massage Studio** provide Swedish, deep tissue massages and hot stone as well as cupping therapy. Additionally **Embrace Kindness Bodywork** offers sports massage.

For those seeking artistic expression, visit **DieHard Piercing & Tattoo**, **Fallen Cherub Tattoo** and **Tourniquet Tattoo**. Personal services abound at **The Internal Beauty Shop**, **La Belle Boutique** and **Today's Next Experience**, which offer hair and nail services. **Level 3 Salon & Spa** and **Pure Beauty Aesthetics** feature skin treatments, salon and day spa experiences.

MesmerEyes offer lash, skin and brow services, while **No Filter Medical Aesthetics** delivers advanced treatments, including Botox and facial fillers.

No matter your Valentine's style or preferences, Downtown Albany has a little bit of everything to make the day extra special. Happy shopping!



Volunteer Spotlight Jena Metting

Jena leads by example as a positive and supportive businesswoman, often offering guidance to fellow Downtown business owners.

Her boutique, Merrime Bridal, earned the 2024 Business of the Year award and consistently supports and participates in Downtown events.

Since joining the Economic Vitality Committee, Jena has become a key contributor, now serving as Chair and as a member of our Board of Directors.

Thank you, Jena, for sharing your expertise and dedication with Downtown Albany!



Downtown Parking Tips:

- Don't park longer than the sign says in limited time spaces (10-minute, 30-minute, 3-hour, 4-hour).
- Don't park in numbered lease spaces.
- Park inside the designated lines.
- Park within 12" of the curb.
- At the Carousel and Post Office, the angle parking is back-in only.

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Each month, ParkWise awards a month of free parking to a leased space or permit holder.

Our February parking winner is...

Emely Day

Community Services consortium

Downtown Events - February / March

Through Saturday, Feb 22 - Gallery Calapooia "Big Show of Little Art"

Gallery Calapooia presents the Big Show of Little Art, the Annual Community Open Exhibit of 8" x 8" artworks. The artist reception is Friday, February 7, 6-8 pm. For more info, call (541) 971-5701 or visit www.gallerycalapooia.com

Through Friday, Mar 7 - Albany Visitors Association Photo Contest

Annual AVA contest of photos featuring people, places and events in Albany and Linn County. Deadline Friday, Mar 7 at 5 pm. www.albanyvisitors.com. See story page 4.

Friday, Feb 7 - 1st Friday in Historic Downtown Albany: Chocolate Walk

Bring your friends Downtown for some 1st Friday fun with a Chocolate theme. Look for chocolate samples, hot chocolate, cheesecake, cupcakes and other chocolate goodies. Check out the sales, music, artist receptions, a Carousel special event and other fun. For more info, visit the ADA website www.albanydowntown.com/events or our Facebook page.

Friday, Feb 7 - 1st Friday Art Show at City Hall

The Albany Arts Commission presents the work of artists Jennifer Deily and Martha Lewis in the gallery at City Hall. View the exhibit during regular City Hall hours, 8 am-5 pm. A reception for the artists will be held Friday, Feb 7 from 5-7 pm. Light refreshments will be served. Exhibit continues through Feb. 28. Free and open to the public.

Friday, Feb 7 - 1st Friday Craft Night at Albany Regional Museum

Join us at the Albany Regional Museum for a family friendly craft night! Little ones and parents can enjoy hands-on activities like creating their own Lake Conser Monster to display in our Artist Alley while older kids can explore our exhibits. 5-7 pm. www.armuseum.com.

Saturday, Feb 8 - Giving A Hoot - Downtown Cleanup

Meet Giving a Hoot at the ParkWise parking lot across from Sid Stevens Jewelers for a Downtown Albany cleanup. The team will work from the intersection of Springhill & Hwy 20 over the bridge into Downtown Albany for cleanup projects down Lyons and Ellsworth Streets to the Train Station. Youth volunteers age 10+ are welcome. Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by an adult 25+. 8-10:30 am. Drop in or out at anytime.

Saturday, Feb 8 - Greater Albany Rotary Club Crab Fest

Enjoy crab and pulled pork or a vegan option, The Depot's famous clam chowder, salad, rolls, and cookies. Soft drinks and coffee are included. Wine, beer and cocktails are sold by Calapooia. Live music all day. The ticket price are \$50 and available online and at the door. 12-7 pm. For information and tickets, visit <https://rotarycrabfest.org>

Wednesday, Feb 12 - History Bites - Albany's Mayors

Join us at the Albany Regional Museum when Dan Murphy presents an interesting lecture on the history of Albany's mayors. History Bites is free to attend. 12-1 pm. Light refreshments provided. www.armuseum.com.

Friday, Feb 14 - Valentine's Day in Downtown Albany

Look for dozens of options for a special evening in Downtown Albany. Check out our Facebook and Instagram for all the options.

Friday & Saturday, Feb 14 & 15 - Happy Birthday, Oregon!

Join the Monteith House Museum in celebrating the 166th anniversary of Oregon's Statehood! Learn about the role the Monteith brother played in Oregon's journey to statehood. Cake will be served in to-go containers (while supplies last). 11 am - 3 pm. Admission is free but donations are always appreciated! Monteith House Museum, 518 2nd St SW. www.monteithhouse.org.

Friday, Feb 21- March 15 - ACT presents "Ride the Cyclone"

Albany Civic Theater presents "Ride the Cyclone" In this hilarious and outlandish story, the lives of six teenagers from a Canadian chamber choir are cut short in a freak accident aboard a roller coaster. When they awake in limbo, a mechanical fortune teller invites each to tell a story to win a prize like no other — the chance to return to life. This popular musical is a funny, moving look at what makes a life well-lived! Note: Ride the Cyclone contains strong language, mature themes, and references to sex, drugs and violence Book, Music and Lyrics by Brooke Maxwell and Jacob Richmond. Directed by Loriann Schmidt. Performances: Feb. 21, 22, 27, 28, Mar. 1, 2(m), 6, 7, 8, 9(m), 14, 15. Eves 7:30 pm, Matinee 2:30 pm. For tickets and info, visit www.albanycivic.org.

Sunday, Mar. 2 - Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration & Read Across America

Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday at the Albany Historic Carousel & Museum with Altrusa International! There will be games, character hide n' seek, and crafts and all kids will get to take home fun new books (while supplies last). Altrusa - supporting literacy one book at a time! 11 am-3 pm. Carousel rides and snacks available for purchase.

For info on these and other events, visit AlbanyDowntown.com



ALBANY DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

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Annual Albany Photo Contest adds Youth Micro-Videos

The Albany Visitors Association is excited to announce the 18th Annual Albany Visitors Association Photography Contest!

This annual competition seeks original images that capture the heart of Albany, Linn County and the Willamette Valley. In 2025, AVA has added a new category, Best Youth Micro-Video, open to 5- to 10-second videos

Winning submissions may be featured in AVA's marketing materials, including websites, social media, visitor guides and other promotional content, inspiring travelers to explore and experience everything our area has to offer.

The contest opens Friday, February 7 and welcomes photographers of all ages and skill levels - from amateur enthusiasts to professionals.



1925 Seagrave
by Camron Settlemier

1st Friday Downtown Chocolate Walk set for February 7

It's time for the annual 1st Friday Downtown Chocolate Walk where local businesses will offer sweet treats, music open houses and unique shopping experiences in Downtown Albany on Friday, February 7.



Art enthusiasts can visit **Gallery Calapooia** for its annual "Big Show of Little Art" artist reception, or enjoy a creative showcase presented by the **Albany Arts Commission** at City Hall. Both venues offer refreshments and a chance to meet the artists.

Beloved Cheesecakes has a special seasonal offering for dessert lovers,

First, second, and third-place prizes will be awarded in each of the seven main categories: Downtown, Food, Events, Historic Albany, Landmarks, People, Scenic.

Additionally, the Youth Category (open to participants 18 and under) will feature two special categories: Best Youth Photograph and Best Youth Micro-Video

The submission deadline is Friday, March 7 at 5 pm.

For contest rules, submission guidelines and required release forms, visit www.albanyvisitors.com.

Prepare for the Paranormal at the Albany X-Files Exhibit

Prepare yourself for the Albany X-Files exhibit with aliens, monsters, ghosts, crimes and more! Opening February 1 at the Albany Regional Museum, the exhibit will run until June 28.

Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction—or perhaps it's just local legend. You be the judge! The Albany X-Files Exhibit reveals the region's secrets: ghosts, monsters, unsolved cases, and other paranormal phenomena. Witness the unexplained or let the unexplained witness you.

Admission is \$5 for adults and teens, and \$3 for seniors. Visit ARM, 136



Path of Magic Nights and Loneliness
by Lizi Kutchukhidze

For more information, please contact the Albany Visitors Association at 122 Ferry St. SW or call (541) 928-0911.

Lyon St. S. Don't miss this thrilling journey into the strange and mysterious—the declassification begins now.



Together Market will have a 'Sweet Giveaway' gift basket.

The Downtown Chocolate Walk in Albany, hosted by the Albany Downtown Association, is a great way to celebrat-



ing the Valentine's season with delicious treats and shopping in a charming atmosphere. Don't miss out on the fun—come join us and indulge in all things CHOCOLATE!

Next month's 1st Friday will be "Pot o' Gold" with a St Patrick's Day theme. For more information in 1st Friday, visit www.albanydowntown.com/events.



DOWNTOWN ALBANY

February 2025

2025 Mixology Madness set for Sunday, March 16

Get ready for a night of glamour, cocktails, and community!

The Albany Downtown Association's annual fundraiser is back, and this year, we're rolling out the red carpet for an Old Hollywood experience you won't want to miss.

Join us on Sunday, March 16, from 4–7 PM at the Flinn Block Hall in beautiful Downtown Albany for an evening of creative cocktails, delicious bites and excit-



OMS Revitalization Grant Partner Projects Selected

After multiple meetings and tours, the Albany Downtown Association's OMS Revitalization Grant Committee has made its selections for the 2025 grant cycle. We plan to apply for two grants.

Grant 1: Albany Civic Theater - \$400,000 grant for revitalization of the landmark Rialto Theater building (c.1898) that serves as a community hub and visual gateway for those visiting Albany. The connected Burg-



ing competition—all in support of our vibrant downtown.

At Mixology Madness, you'll have the chance to sample a fantastic selection of handcrafted cocktails from talented local mixologists. Then, cast your vote for the People's Choice Award and cheer on the winning bartenders. After the competition, sit back and enjoy full-size cocktails crafted by the contestants.

Guests will also be treated to amazing appetizers from Taste of Downtown Albany, along with the opportunity to bid on fantastic packages in the silent auction.

Tickets are \$50 per person and will be available online and at the ADA office starting Monday, February 10. Each attendee receives a wristband, tasting tray, ten tasting tickets and a voting pamphlet. Additional tastes, specialty cocktails, wine and beer will be available for purchase.

Wondering what to wear? Our Old Holly-

wood theme makes for a fun and classy event, so guests are encouraged to dress up. See our website for inspiration.

graph designed building (c.1919) was the first poured concrete building in the State of Oregon and will be part of the project.

Grant 2: Roofing Downtown Albany - we will apply for up to a \$400,000 grant to put new roofs on four Downtown buildings - The Bligh/Venetian Theater (c.1914), The Schultz Building (c.1910), The Western Union Building (c.1880) and The Pastime/Wyatt Building (c.1889).

Thank you to the committee for their hard work in reviewing pre-applications and determining the best way to serve our Downtown. The next step is to complete the statewide grant applications. This will rely heavily on the partner building owners with the support of the committee and ADA staff.



wood theme makes for a fun and classy event, so guests are encouraged to dress up. See our website for inspiration.

This event is 21 and over only, and tickets are limited—don't wait to secure yours. Join us for a night of style, spirits, and celebration!

For more information and tickets, contact ADA at (541) 928-2469 or visit, www.mixologymadness.com.



We have added a new sign face to the ParkWise Bridge Lot sign clearly inviting customers to park in this convenient lot thanks to the ParkWise Advisory Board and Xtreme Grafx!