



2020 SCHEDULE

FIRST WEEKEND

◆ all virtual events ◆

Day 1 Friday, Sept 25, 2020

All Times California

INTRO TO NEON: Beginning to See the Light 12:30 pm
If this is your first time to attend Neon Speaks, this session is for you, featuring Tod Swormstedt of the American Sign Museum, Dydia Delyser and Paul Greenstein, Kate Widdows of PDX Neon, and Lippy.

☕ Long Break 3.5 hrs 1:30 pm to 5pm

VIRTUAL TOUR: SF Neon Tender-Nob 5:00 pm
From the gritty to the sublime, zig zag through the corridors of this historic neighborhood situated between the Tenderloin and Nob Hill. Hosted by Al Barna and Randall Ann Homan, SF Neon.

☕ Short Break 30 mins 6:15 pm to 6:30 pm

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION: Preservation Forum 6:30 pm ends 8:30 pm
Join us for a virtual celebration with a line up of panelists at the forefront of neon preservation: Tom E. Rinaldi, Stephanie Cisneros, Jude Cook, PAC*San Jose, Corky Scholl, and Debra Jane Seltzer.

Day 2 Saturday, Sept 26, 2020

All Times California

BEHIND THE SCENES: Philadelphia and Boston 9:30 am
Len Davidson at the Neon Museum of Philadelphia gives a sparkling preview of this new museum. Then Dave and Lynn Waller of Neon Williams, Boston, take us on an insider's tour of the best vintage neon of their collection.

☕ Short Break 25 mins 10:20 to 10:45 am

NEON CURIOSITY LOUNGE PART 1 10:45 am
Satisfy your neon curiosity! Neon makers and artists include: Bill Concannon, Karen Heisler, Morgan Crook and Danielle James, Amy Palms, Michael Mintz, Laura Stevenson, Chris Raley, Anika Rivers, and Dan Kuppe.

☕ Long Break 4 hrs 1:00 to 5:00 pm

BEHIND THE SCENES: Museum of Neon Art and Nevada Neon 5:00 pm
Spend an evening with the advocates and educators who champion vintage neon preservation in the West: Eric Lynxwiler and Ani Mnatsakanyan of the Museum of Neon Art in Glendale, CA and Will Durham, Nevada Neon Project

☕ Short Break 30 mins 6:15 to 6:45pm

VIRTUAL TOUR: Tenderloin Neon+ Matchbooks SF 6:45 pm ends 8:00 pm
This online journey features stunning visuals of vintage match books and neon signs from the Tenderloin mid-century nightscape. Hosted by Katie Conry from the Tenderloin Museum with Al Barna and Randall Ann Homan, SF Neon.

REGISTER/INFO NEONSPEAKS.ORG ◆

Day 3 Sunday, Sept 27, 2020

All Times California

NEW YORK STOREFRONTS 10:15 am
James and Karla Murray share their journey to document disappearing storefronts and signs while forging personal connections with the people who own small legacy businesses in New York City.

☕ Short Break 15 mins 10:45 to 11:00 am

LETTERS FROM THE NIGHT SKY 11:00 am
When letterforms are illuminated in a vintage neon sign, the visual allure is irresistible. This session features Letreiro Galeria Projecta from Lisbon, Portugal; followed by a Typographers Forum with Stephen Coles, Kunal Patel, and Kate Widdows.

☕ Long Break 3.5 hrs 12:45 to 4:15 pm

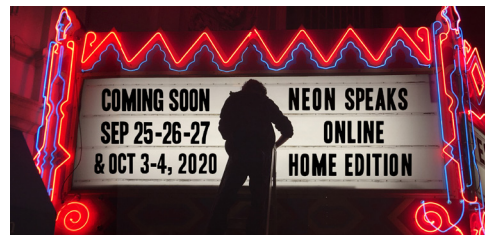
A NEON FAMILY: Dean Blazek and Michael Blazek 4:15 pm
Neon pioneer Dean Blazek established the renowned six-week training course at the Neon Workshop in Antigo, Wisconsin, attracting visitors from across the globe. Dean published three touchstone books for tube benders: Neon ABCs (Editions 1, 2, and 3). Dean's son, Michael Blazek, has carried on the family neon tradition.

☕ Short Break 30 mins 5:15 to 5:45pm

SIGNS, STREETS, AND STORE FRONTS 5:45 pm
Lettered Landscape, USA, with Martin Treu
Storefronts and neon signs have a symbiotic relationship. Take a deep dive into the architectural history of the American store front with Martin Treu, award-winning author of *Signs, Streets, and Store Fronts*.

☕ Short Break 15 mins 6:15 to 6:30pm

VIRTUAL TOUR: Brilliant Store Fronts SF 6:30 pm ends 8:00 pm
San Francisco's signs and storefronts represent the intersection of architecture, aesthetics, and advertising. The city has an abundance of brilliant neon signs and classic store fronts. Hosted by Martin Treu with Al Barna and Randall Ann Homan, SF Neon.



Register for a All-Event Virtual Passport to join all Zoom events and gain special access to event recordings. Passports are sliding scale, \$10-\$50, register at neonspeaks.org



2020 SCHEDULE SECOND WEEKEND

◆ all virtual events ◆

DAY 4 Saturday, Oct 3, 2020

All Times California

NEON CURIOSITY LOUNGE Part 2 9:30 am
This virtual Neon Curiosity Lounge is a collection of expert tube-bending artists and neon historians with much to show and tell. Presenters include: Michael Flechtner, Paul Greenstein and Dydia DeLyser, Shawna Peterson, Roxy Rose Score, Kody Shafer, and Perry Pfister/Tiny Spoon Neon.

Short Break 11:15 to 11:30 am

HIGHWAY LIFE: Roots of Black Travel in America 11:30 am
Join award-winning author, photographer, and cultural documentarian Candacy Taylor for an illustrated talk based on her new book *Overground Railroad: The Green Book and Roots of Black Travel in America*.

Long Break 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

VIRTUAL TOUR: NEON + GHOST SIGNS SF 5:00 pm
The history and soul of the neighborhood shines through in this online tour of vintage neon signs and ghost signs, those faded historic hand painted signs on the sides of buildings. Hosted by Kasey Smith, SF Ghost Sign Mapping Project, and Al Barna and Randall Ann Homan, SF Neon.

Short Break 6:15 to 6:30pm

SIGNS UNITED: Stories from the Road 6:45 pm
Hit the road while you shelter in place this global group of artists, photographers, and preservationists. Get to know the Signs United community through short videos submitted by members, hosted by co-founders Will Hansen and Steve Spiegel. 8:00 pm

REGISTER/INFO NEONSPEAKS.ORG

DAY 5 Sunday, Oct 4, 2020

All Times California

NEON IN HAVANA 10:00 am
In the mid-century neon signs brought light, color, and aesthetics to dense metropolitan spaces—from the 1930s to the 1950. Kadir Lopez and Adolfo Nodal of Habana Lights will take us on their journey to restore vintage neon in Cuba: Havana once had 140 neon-lit cinemas on Calle 23, the Cuban equivalent of Broadway. Signs United members Yanis Carreto, Will Hansen, and Steve Spiegel present their photographs from trips to discover existing neon in Havana, Cuba.

Short Break 11:00 to 11:15 am

SCREENING: "NEON" Polish documentary 11:15 am
Don't miss this gorgeous short film, *NEON*, an award-winning documentary on the neonization of Poland in the Cold War era. Director Eric Bednarski will join for a Q&A "live from Warsaw". This is a repeat screening at Neon Speaks, by popular demand!

Long Break 12:15 pm to 5:00 pm

VIRTUAL TOUR: CHINATOWN NEON 5:00 pm
SF Chinatown shines in this online tour about neon signs and how they illuminate the history of Grant Avenue. Tour includes a rich collection of historic photographs, video clips, and ephemera. Hosted by SF Neon and the Chinese Historical Society of America.

Short Break 6:15 to 6:30pm

CLOSING NIGHT CELEBRATION 6:30 pm
Bring your favorite beverage, neon questions, and reflections to this festival closing celebration. Presenters and passport holders are encouraged to join as we give a toast to the glow of neon light and reflect on the festival and the future of neon. ends 7:30 pm

NEON Speaks BOOK FAIR

The Museum of Neon Art is partnering with Neon Speaks to host an online book fair. A curated list of classic neon books and new books by this year's presenters will be available for you to browse and purchase additions for your neon book self. Check out neonspeaks.org/bookfair for SF Neon books, more titles will be added every week.

