

Buffalo Shapers Weekend

Tentative Schedule
August 7–9, 2026 · Global Shapers Buffalo Hub

Friday, August 7 — First Friday

11:00 AM · Meet at [Overwinter](#) Coffee Downtown

9 Genesee St · 4 min walk to City Hall · Open from 7am

Specialty coffee, pastries, great pour-overs. Gather here before the noon tour.

Cost: Free to gather · Street parking nearby or garage on Pearl St

12:00 PM · [Free City Hall Tour](#) (Explore Buffalo)

65 Niagara Square · 4 min walk from Overwinter

1-hour docent-led tour of Buffalo's 1932 Art Deco masterpiece. Council Chambers, Mayor's Office, and 360° observation deck views of the city and Lake Erie. No reservation needed — meet in the lobby at noon.

Cost: Completely free (donations welcome) · ~1 hr · 3 flights of stairs to observation deck

1:15 PM · Lunch at [International House](#)

617 Main St · 5 min walk from City Hall · Open Fridays

Multicultural food hall — Ethiopian, Thai, Filipino and more. Communal seating, bar on-site.

Cost: ~\$10–15/person

3:30 PM · M&T First Friday at the [AKG](#)

1285 Elmwood Ave · Open until 9pm tonight only

Knox Building always free; Wilmers & Gundlach Buildings pay-what-you-wish. Live music at Sculpture Bar, curator tours, performances, and drop-in drawing all evening.

Cost: Pay-what-you-wish / free · Optional: +\$8 for Kusama timed ticket



MEET YOUTH SHAPING CITIES ACROSS
THE MIDWEST, NORTHEAST, AND
CANADA AS WE GATHER HERE IN
BUFFALO, NY!



WEEKEND EXPLORATION
OF THE 716
AUGUST 7TH - AUGUST 9TH

7:00 PM · Group Dinner at [Lloyd Taco Factory](#)

Elmwood Ave. · Open until midnight · Closed Sundays

Counter service, full bar. Tacos \$4.09–4.39, burritos ~\$12, nachos \$12.89. No reservations needed, great for groups.

Cost: ~\$15–20/person

9:00 PM · Split Off — Optional Evening

- **Option A** — [Transit Drive-In](#): 6655 S Transit Rd, Lockport (30 min north). Gates open 7pm Fri. Double feature under the stars. No advance tickets. ~\$8–10/person
- **Option B** — [Hartman's Distilling](#): 55 Chicago St. Hidden Speakeasy inside.
- **Option C** – Explore Elmwood Village

Saturday, August 8

8:00 AM · [Elmwood-Bidwell Farmers Market](#)

Elmwood Ave & Bidwell Pkwy · 8am–1pm · Rain or shine

Producer-only market on a tree-lined Olmsted parkway. 30+ vendors: fresh bread, local produce, wood-fired pizza, pastries, honey. Grab breakfast here before Tiff.

Cost: Free to browse · ~\$8 if grabbing breakfast

10:00 AM · Volunteer with [East Side Stewards](#)

The East Side Stewards transforms the East Side of Buffalo into a thriving, sustainable community by revitalizing green spaces, redeveloping vacant land into shared community assets, building pathways for a greener workforce, and ensuring residents have equitable access to the resources needed to live, work, and grow in place.

1:00 PM · Lunch at [Charlie's Boat Yard](#)

1111 Fuhrmann Blvd · Open from 11am Sat

On the same road as Tiff, right on the water. Casual waterfront patio with Lake Erie views. Fish fry, burgers, live music some days.

Cost: ~\$15–20/person

OPTIONAL POST LUNCH

[Tiff Nature Preserve](#)

1200 Fuhrmann Blvd · Visitor Center open 10am–4pm Sat · Free parking

264 acres of restored urban habitat — 5 miles of trails and three boardwalks over a 75-acre cattail marsh. Great Blue Herons, osprey, white-tailed deer, turtles. 5 min from downtown on the Outer Harbor.

Cost: Free (donations welcome)

Note: Groups of 10+ must make a reservation — call (716) 825-6397

[Explore Canalside](#)

Group Pictures

4:00 PM · What's the Tea — Buffalo Shapers at [The Jade Turtle](#)

1007 Elmwood Ave · Open Tues–Sat until 7pm

Traditional Gongfu Cha ceremony with premium Chinese loose-leaf teas sourced from China. Buffalo Shapers hosted gathering.

Cost: ~\$7–8/person (unlimited steepers)

Action: Call Jon in advance at (716) 949-6559 to coordinate group size

7:00 PM · [Shred the Debt Fundraiser @ Duende](#)

- **Duende at Silo City:** 85 Silo City Row. Craft cocktails/mocktails and light fare + good wings in a 1940s building surrounded by grain silos. Live music often. Open Sat until 11pm.

Cost: ~\$25/person suggested donation

Sunday, August 9

8:30 AM · Breakfast at [Five Points Bakery](#)

44 Brayton St, West Side · Open 8am–3pm

Whole grain breads milled on-site, toast-forward menu, great espresso, outdoor sculpture garden seating. Sundays get busy — arrive before 9am to beat the line.

Cost: ~\$10–14/person

10:00 AM · [Wegmans Snack Run](#)

Stock up on drinks and picnic supplies for the Falls on the way out of the city.

Cost: ~\$10–15/person (shared)

10:45 AM · [Niagara Falls State Park](#)

~30 min drive from Buffalo

Walk in free. Explore Goat Island, Three Sisters Islands, and Terrapin Point. Picnic with your Wegmans haul with the Falls as a backdrop.

Cost: Free on foot · Main lot parking: \$15/day (free street parking on Buffalo Ave / Old Falls St)

Optional add-ons: Maid of the Mist \$30/adult · Cave of the Winds \$23/adult

1:30 PM · Farewell & Departures

Head home from the Falls or loop back through Buffalo.

Cost: ~\$10–15/person if stopping

Estimated Cost Per Person (Excluding Hotel)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| City Hall tour | Free |
| Downtown Bazaar lunch (Fri) | ~\$12 |
| AKG First Friday | \$0–10 |
| Lloyd Taco dinner | ~\$18 |
| Drive-in (optional, Fri) | ~\$9 |
| Farmers market breakfast (Sat) | ~\$8 |
| Tiff Nature Preserve | Free |
| Charlie's Boat Yard lunch | ~\$18 |
| Jade Turtle tea | ~\$8 |
| Wings (Anchor Bar or Duff's) | ~\$22 |
| Five Points breakfast (Sun) | ~\$12 |
| Wegmans picnic | ~\$12 |
| Weekend total (without hotel) | ~\$110 – 120 |

Where to Stay

[InnBuffalo](#) off Elmwood

Historic 1898 mansion in Elmwood Village. Free breakfast included. Steps from Lloyd's and the AKG. Best location of any hotel option.

Price: ~\$122–257/night

[Lenox Hotel](#) & Suites

Buffalo's oldest hotel (1896) in Historic Allentown. Free parking. Fridge and microwave in every room. Good value, walkable to Elmwood.

Price: ~\$112–183/night

Airbnb — Whole Home

Best option for groups arriving together. Elmwood Village and North Buffalo have strong Airbnb stock. Keeps everyone together and cuts per-person cost significantly.

Price: ~\$150–250/night total