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Nevada, Fossils, and the 1893 World's Fair

<http://specoll.blogs.unr.edu/2014/01/23/nevada-fossils-and-the-1893-worlds-fair/>

Posted by [Jessica Maddox](#) on [23 January 2014, 1:11 pm](#)

During the course of my day, I look at a lot of photographs, both in print and digital format. Some of them catch my attention more than others. A few weeks ago, I reviewed a photograph, already digitized, titled “Human footprints being removed for World’s Fair.” This image immediately caught my interest. I had to know more about these fossils, their relation to Chicago’s 1893 Columbian Exposition, and Nevada’s relation to the World’s Fair. This is the story I found.

Nevada State Prison Quarry

The 1893 Columbian Exposition was cause for great excitement and pride not only for Chicago, but the citizens of the United States. Great feats of engineering were accomplished in nearly record time on the hard-to-build terrain along Lake Michigan. States participated in the World’s Fair, including Nevada, with exhibits and exhibitions that best represented the state. Nevada’s contributions spanned a variety of exhibit halls from the Mining Building to the Women’s Building. One of the most fascinating exhibits submitted by Nevada was housed in the Ethnological Building. The exhibit, as described in the 1894 *Report of Nevada State Board, World’s Fair Commissioners*, “...consisted of the supposed human footprints and fossils from the quarry at the Nevada State Prison, Carson.”

pic: Fossilized footprints of Mylodon harlani with men’s shoes placed for size comparison.

These prints, originally discovered in 1882, caused great contention among some of the most prominent scientists of the time and sparked what was to become known as the “Carson Footprint War.” This war pitted those who believed the fossils were of human origin against those who believed the footprints were of a four-footed species. It wasn’t until 1917 that the

fossils were “unequivocally identified” (Tuohy) as belonging to *Mylodon harlani*, a species of giant ground sloth (Branham 51, 62).

Although the World’s Columbian Exposition was signed into law by the President in 1891, it wasn’t until 1893 at the 16th Nevada Legislature that Assembly Bill No. 56 was passed to provide funds for the creation of exhibits. Soon after the Bill was passed, J. A. Yerington was appointed to represent the state at the Fair. He, along with the other members of the State Board, was tasked with creating the exhibits for the Fair. This delay in providing funding and appointing a representative left only a little over a month for the exhibits to be created and installed. Goods and materials were gathered from all around the state to be sent by railroad to Chicago.

pic: J. A. Yerington supervising a prisoner removing the fossilized footprints

Despite the short planning period, the Nevada exhibits at the Columbian Exposition were highly acclaimed. One newspaper declared that “The exhibit at the World’s Fair gives the lie to the assertion that Nevada is fit only for cattle range and mining camps.” The *New York World* described the fossils as “...prehistoric cosmic records of incalculable value” (quoted in Yerington, 1894). The success of the Nevada exhibits at the World’s Fair helped to bring attention to the small state. The mineral and agricultural resources exhibited at the Fair bolstered the idea that Nevada was not just a “territory...not worth living in” as described by newspaperman Alf Doten, but a state with great potential for the future of the American West.

For more information on Nevada’s role in the Columbian Exposition, and the fossils found at the Nevada State Prison quarry, see:

Branham, Stacy L., et.al. *Images of America: Nevada State Prison*. South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2012.

Nevada State Board of World’s Fair Commissioners. *Report of Nevada State Board, World’s Fair Commissioners, 1894*. Carson City: State of Nevada, 1895.

From the Northwest
Indian College!



Obesity Is Found to Gain Its Hold in Earliest Years By [GINA KOLATA](#) JAN. 29, 2014

For many obese adults, the die was cast by the time they were 5 years old. A major new [study](#) of more than 7,000 children has found that a third of children who were overweight in kindergarten were obese by eighth grade. And almost every child who was very obese remained that way.

Some obese or overweight kindergartners lost their excess weight, and some children of normal weight got fat over the years. But every year, the chances that a child would slide into or out of being overweight or obese diminished. By age 11, there were few additional changes: Those who were obese or overweight stayed that way, and those whose weight was normal did not become fat.

“The main message is that obesity is established very early in life, and that it basically tracks through adolescence to adulthood,” said Ruth Loos, a professor of preventive medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York, who was not involved in the study.

These results, surprising to many experts, arose from a rare study that tracked children’s body weight for years, from kindergarten through eighth grade. Experts say they may reshape approaches to combating the nation’s obesity epidemic, suggesting that efforts must start much earlier and focus more on the children at greatest risk.

The findings, to be published Thursday in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, do not explain why the effect occurs. Researchers say it may be a combination of genetic predispositions to being heavy and environments that encourage overeating in those prone to it. But the results do provide a possible explanation for why efforts to help children lose weight have often had disappointing results. The steps may have aimed too broadly at all schoolchildren, rather than starting before children enrolled in kindergarten and concentrating on those who were already fat at very young ages.

Previous studies established how many children were fat at each age but not whether their weight changed as they grew up. While valuable in documenting the extent of childhood obesity, they gave an incomplete picture of how the condition developed, researchers said.

“What is striking is the relative decrease in incidence after that initial blast” of obesity that occurs by age 5, said Dr. Jeffrey P. Koplan, the vice president of the Emory Global Health Institute in Atlanta. “It is almost as if, if you can make it to kindergarten without the weight, your chances are immensely better.”

Dr. Koplan, a former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was not associated with the new study, although its lead author, Solveig A. Cunningham, is an assistant professor in the School of Public Health at Emory.

The study involved 7,738 children from a nationally representative sample. Researchers measured the children’s height and weight seven times from kindergarten to eighth grade.

When the children entered kindergarten, 12.4 percent were obese — defined as having a body mass index at or above the 95th percentile — and 14.9 percent were overweight, with a B.M.I. at or above the 85th percentile. By eighth grade, 20.8 percent were obese and 17 percent were overweight. Half of the obese kindergartners were obese when they were in eighth grade, and nearly three-quarters of the very obese kindergartners were obese in eighth grade. The risk that fat kindergartners would be obese in eighth grade was four to five times that of their thinner classmates, the study found.

Race, ethnicity and family income mattered in younger children, but by the time the overweight children were 5 years old, those factors no longer affected their risk of being fat in later years.

The study did not track the children before kindergarten, but the researchers had their birth weights. Overweight or obese children often were heavy babies, at least 8.8 pounds, something other studies have also found.

The study’s results, Dr. Koplan and others said, “help focus interventions.”

Most efforts to reduce childhood obesity concentrate on school-age children and apply the steps indiscriminately to all children, fat and thin — improving meals in schools, teaching nutrition and the importance of physical activity, getting rid of soda machines.

“This suggests that maybe one reason it didn’t work so well is that by the time kids are 5, the horse is out of the barn,” said Leann L. Birch, a professor in the department of foods and nutrition at the University of Georgia, who was not involved with the study.

The most rigorous studies of efforts for school-age children, conducted in the 1990s, randomly assigned thousands of children to either participate in intensive programs that encouraged them to exercise and improve their diets, or go on as usual.

[One study](#) involved 1,704 third graders in 41 elementary schools in the Southwest, where most of the students were Native Americans, a group that is at high risk for obesity. A [second study](#) included 5,106 children in 96 schools in California, Louisiana, Minnesota and Texas.

Neither study found any effect on children’s weights.

Some obesity researchers said the new study following kindergartners over the years also hinted at another factor: the powerful influence of genetics on obesity, something that can be a challenge to overcome.

Silver City, Nevada Community Garden.

Scroll through for a 3 page history of the Silver City community garden from its beginnings in 2009 to present: The Silver City, Nevada Community Garden completed its 5th season in 2013! It’s an inspiring example of collaboration. As gardener Renate Victor puts it, “The real miracle of this project is the spirit of Silver City. We are a community of diverse individuals who may have little in common, but we enthusiastically enjoy the things that unite us.” The garden got a kickstart of labor and funding from Healthy Communities and Community Chest in 2009, and



locals have since funded most of the gardens' needs through local fundraising and volunteer labor and donations. The garden is located on private land generously provided by Mr. Bill Young, while water is provided from a nearby neighbor who the garden committee reimburses through local fundraisers. Last year, a very fine garden shed was designed and built by Larry, largely from donated lumber and donated funds. The movers and shakers of the garden committee include expert gardeners Susan Stornetta, Lila Lindsey, Molly Allander, and Renate Victor who regularly care for and maintain the garden year round. They also care for the pots of flowers along the boardwalk to the side door of the Schoolhouse/Community Center, and maintain a 3-stage compost. When the time of hot winds and no moisture arrive, they water daily. Other local youth and adults add help with the summer watering schedule. During Silver City's annual youth summer program, gardening activities at the community garden have included terrarium-making, garden rock painting, and a scarecrow-making project. The kids have also taken tours of local farms and hoop houses, planted their own spider plants, and participated in cooking classes using some of the fresh garden produce. Youth activities are led by local volunteers and funded by local fundraisers and donations. Liability insurance is covered through Healthy Communities Coalition. The History of the Silver City Community Garden 2009 - 2010 Adapted from articles By Renate Victor "A Shared Vision: We gathered at the Silver City Schoolhouse on a warm sunny Sunday; April 26th 2009, to determine if there was enough interest in starting a community garden project. Over the years we often spoke of communal gardening; in the park, in someone's yard, on the hillside west of the Schoolhouse, and now we were actually planning to build straw-bale beds somewhere in Silver City and grow our own vegetables. In addition to the gardening passions of a few faithful citizens, and the occasional support of many others, we were further encouraged by the fact that Comstock Youth Works (funded through Community Chest through Nevada Works' stimulus funds) offered a summer program for teens that provided a stipend for working in the Community Garden and clearing weeds and brush at the homes of seniors, to reduce fire hazards. The program also provided for an adult supervisor. We now had the work force to make our garden a reality. A Town Works Together: At the second meeting of the gardening group on May 3rd, we learned that Bill Young, a long-time resident of Silver City, had offered his lot, across the road from the Schoolhouse on High Street, for our garden site; a perfect spot. We established work groups: Planning and Design; Fencing; Composting; Straw-bale Assembly; Planting; and

Irrigation. Two nonprofits, Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon and Storey and Community Chest, Inc. provided \$600 for straw bales, fencing, seedlings, etc. Local resident Cashion Callaway agreed to manage a garden account and send acknowledgements and appreciations as needed. The first miracle occurred after days of researching the quality and cost of soil and realizing what a huge expense that was going to be. In the midst of this dilemma there suddenly appeared at the garden site, two hills of beautiful brown dirt and topsoil; a generous gift from Art Wilson. The garden site is an open field that is flooded in sunlight from east to west; dawn to dusk. It seemed pretty level to a 'Comstocker's' eye, with lots of dry, wild grasses and just as many rocks as you would expect in an empty field. Straw-bale beds would be great in this space. But the next miracle occurred when Silver City resident Beau Guthrie showed up with his front loader and said he would level the garden-site and help load the straw-bales. He got us moving, and thanks to Beau and the young people of this town, bales were set and the beds were filled with the soil. We all had pizza that day. The early days of May found us 'playing in the dirt'. Resident Susan Stornetta brought "treats" for the soil and worked them in, Molly Allander and I drove to a ranch in Dayton where we shoveled aged sheep manure into the bed of her pick-up. We got a little surprise pelting of dirt and manure due to the back window being in the open position as we flew down 50 to Silver City. Planting Day and a Surprise Hail Storm: We set a date for planting: Sunday, May 31st. The paler-than-usual sun may have accounted for a slow start to the day, but then kids don't take too well to early Sunday mornings, as I remember. Everyone finally assembled and without too much direction, went to work. Some planted seeds or small plants that were started in-door. Mary MacDonald, a local professional gardener, shared many small plants and advised us on gardening issues. We planted cabbage, carrots, beans, spinach, arugula, lettuce, cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, squash, pumpkin, carrots, beets, radishes, turnips, potatoes, and many, many varieties of tomatoes in a very long bed. We put in giant sunflowers as sentries for the western fence line. Some folks cleared the paths around the beds of rocks, stones and weeds; others watered. The young men proved their strength; working the post-hole digger, driving in posts to assemble the fencing, moving large boulders, constructing compost bins to add to the one that Michelle Kramer donated, creating a three-stage system. Silver City resident Ron Reno came down to the garden one day and put a bolt lock on the compost cage to keep the critters out. Throughout the later morning hours, we heard the soft rumble of distant thunder. By 11:00 dark clouds began hovering and the sun seemed to fade gradually. Suddenly, a lightning flash came nearer with a thunder clap like an exclamation. "Drop the metal!" someone shouted. The boys sort of laughed, but almost immediately another lightning and thunderclap seemed close enough to touch, and we all hurried to put tools away just as the sky opened and showered us with a thick veil of hailstones that became louder, larger and more vicious as we dashed across the road and up the dirt hill to the side door to the Schoolhouse. We stood in the foyer looking out through the glass at the thick hailstones; at the teen-agers out there on the road and on the grass, shrieking, laughing and writhing from the sharp stabbing ice pellets that finally drove them inside. The hills in the distance were eerie in a frozen white mist, and the roads, fields, trees, roofs of houses, sheds, cars, and power lines in town, shrouded in ice. Winter persisted for five more hours. The next miracle occurred as we checked the plants the following day. We walked the spongy paths around the beds; Mary MacDonald made the rounds, checking each plant for damages and judging the outcomes. "This one looks like it will make it. We'll just wait and see." Some plants were clearly destroyed. But what was miraculous was that most of the tender little plants were perfectly intact, protected, tucked into a nest of straw. Thanks to Susan Stornetta's adamant instructions, the beds were thickly mulched

with straw that the heavy hailstones didn't penetrate. We lost quite a few tomato plants but when Mary Mac Donald mentioned our hailstone planting woes to David Ruff at the Greenhouse Garden Center in Carson City, he donated 9 six-packs of Roma tomato plants to our garden. We had an outstanding tomato crop and nobody complained that there were too many. You



ths and Adults Both Worked to Create It: The Comstock Youth Works teenagers cared for the garden five days a week through the summer until mid August. They watered the plants, cleaned out the weeds, gathered willow twigs and branches to construct trellises to support the tomatoes that grew stronger and heavier by the day. They picked some of the greens and cucumbers for their lunch salads, and built a scarecrow that made friends with the visiting quail. A regular group of women met early on Sunday mornings to hang out, assess the garden and compost, water what needed to be, and share gardening expertise and recipes for using the vegetables we were growing. We would nibble on lettuces, arugula, spinach, radishes, carrots plucked from the beds, and take home an eggplant or squash for dinner. Although we were able to harvest a few strawberries from hardy plants, we talked about planting more berries next time. Our community garden was lush. The tomato beds looked like a jungle. The sunflowers grew tall and had to be braced for the wind. Of course some plants did better than others. We learned better ways to use the beds. The radishes were delicious. The tomatoes ripened slowly and were harvested late. A lot of salsa was made and it was all consumed. We used vegetables from the garden for the town's monthly community soup and salad dinners that are funded, in part, through the Silver City Task Force. Visions of the Second Season: Silver City Community Garden is now in its 2nd season (2010). We agree that we want to do multi-generational cooking groups; learn to use the vegetables we are growing, creatively. We plan to grow a partial bed of Poblana chili peppers which Cashion Callaway will teach us to process for preparing Mexican/Southwest cuisine in our Schoolhouse kitchen. It will be a challenge to engage regular, committed workers for our garden, and it will be essential to maintain schedules for oversight and maintenance. Since we will not have the benefit of the Comstock Works program this season, we are trying to find ways to include young people to help with the garden. We are developing a system of earning points for service in hours that can be redeemed for internet use, transportation, meals, events, privileges, and other options. We would like to include more children in our project; both gardening and cooking. The real miracle of this project is the spirit of Silver City. We are a community of diverse individuals who may have little in common, but enthusiastically enjoy the things that unite us."

Nuclear Waste Solution Seen in Desert Salt Beds By MATTHEW L. WALD

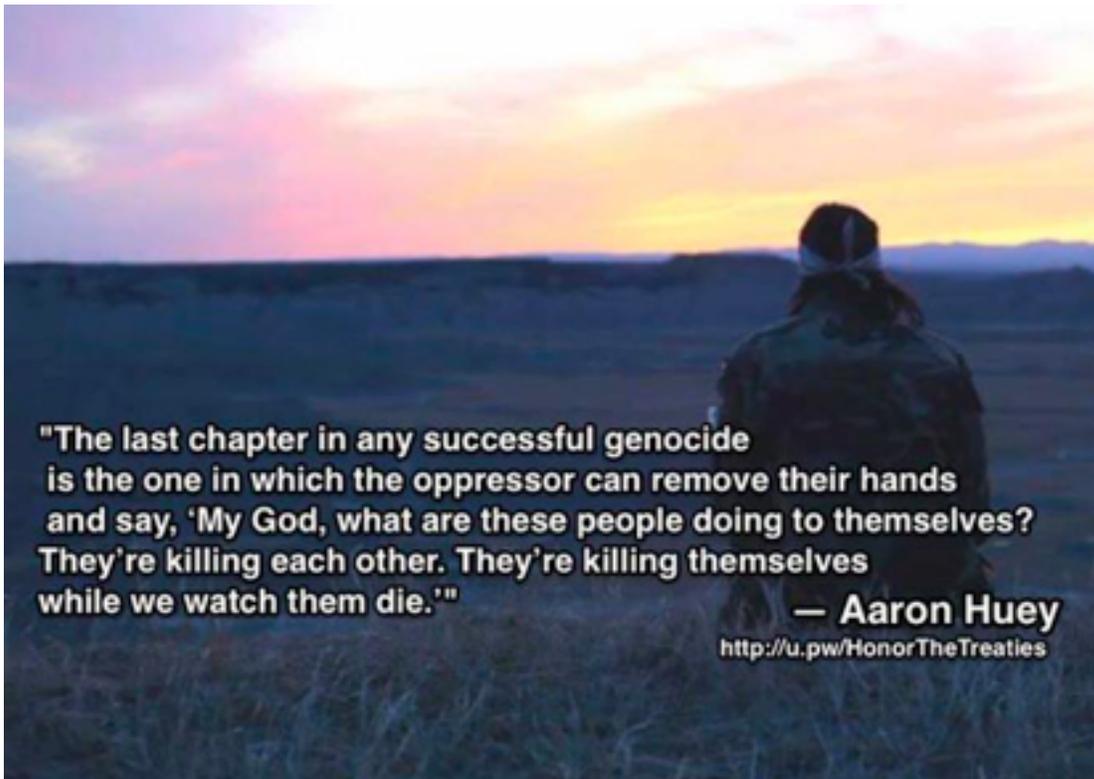
Salt beds half a mile beneath the surface are being targeted as a possible repository for radioactive material left over from power reactors and weapons.

“Investing in Safety: The Importance of Effective Regulation”

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/commission/speeches/2014/s-14-001.pdf>
[nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)

American Indians are walking down the road carved out for us by the U.S. Government. They have paved the way so that our Tribal leaders can lead us to self destruction.

~ James Swan 2014



Arts

Services Grants and Arts Education Program Coordinator (DCA #4782)

agency.governmentjobs.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE:Text resumes and attached resumes will no longer be reviewed or considered....

Lonnie Kauk (Paiute-Pomo) talks about climbing the Buttermilks near Bishop, California.
[Lonnie Kauk Goes All In on 'Too Big to Flail' in the Buttermilks | Standard Definition, Ep. 2](#) epictv.com

[Get ready for a bit of vicarious palm sweating kids -- pro snowboarder/rock climber Lonnie Kauk is climbing the super...](#)

[Shanna Street Natalie Lynn Owyhee Aaron Sabori Jr](#)

[The Great Spirit made a Powwow Dancer](#)

[Sings In The Timber Photography Dedicated to the Powwow Dancer, beauty in motion! Last year, after seeing Ram Truck's Farmers commercial I made a photo slideshow similar and dedicated to Native American life. You may have seen it, I titled it "Native America". It was a combination...](#)

[Proposed Finding - Indian Affairs](#) www.bia.gov/cs/groups/.../idc-001554.pdf [United States Bureau of I...](#)

BIA *De*:scription of the Issues Walter A. Vickers and Edwin "Wise Owl" Morse (Elbert to Reno, 4/911985). On August 14, 1986, *Little Turtle*/ signing as ...

[Monster wind farm planned in South Dakota](#)

More than 80 landowners are banding together and aiming big, working on a wind project that could produce up to a gigawatt of electricity.

BY JOHN UPTON

Our next Tech Bite covers practical **ways you can use video and social media to build engagement:**

- Present and explore your products: Features, use, testimonials
- Illustrate Your Corporate Culture: Feature Staff, Behind the Scenes
- Position yourself as an industry expert: How-Tos, insider info, live shows
- Start a conversation with your customer: It's about building your audience

Why use video?

- 350% more engaging than text or photos
- Increase TOS (Time on Site) by over 250%
- Increases SEO (Search Engine Optimization) exponentially
- Engage customers on an emotional level
- Enable two way communication with customer base

We'll provide details about how to use video and how to get it to your customers.

So don't let technology get the best of you. Have a Tech Bite lunch with NCET and learn the best way to put it to work for you.

Wednesday, February 26, 2014 - 11:30 am > 1:00 pm

- \$25 - NCET members
- \$35 - non-members

Advance reservations are required, so please RSVP by 5 pm on Monday, February 24. (Walk-ins not available)

NCET members receive substantial discounts on NCET events and your membership pays for itself quickly. [Join NCET now](#) and save.

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

Grand Ballroom, 3800 S. Virginia Street, Reno NV 89502

About Our Presenter

Mark Hatjakes is co-founder of [SoSu.TV](#), a visual storytelling advertising agency headquartered in northern Nevada. His firm is focused on video production and emotional branding with an emphasis on social media distribution. Mark began his career in web design and development during the dotcom era and shifted gears into television and film production for major players in network broadcast.

In combining these various areas of expertise, Mark honed the ability to elicit key value propositions and communicate them into an engaging storyline for small and large businesses alike. Earning degrees in graphic/digital communications and television, film and new media from San Diego State University, Hatjakes has both the formal and ground-level experience to navigate the ever-changing waters of brand storytelling.

Mark is a 5th-generation Nevadan and lives in Reno with his wonderful wife and partner Dana and his two children, David and Anna. He is an outdoor enthusiast and loves the natural beauty and terrain of Northern Nevada.

For more information, contact NCET at (775) 453-0130 or info@NCET.org

Feds approve more fracking off California coast

ALICIA CHANG, Associated Press

The federal government has approved three new fracking jobs off the shores of California as state coastal regulators voiced concerns about potential environmental impacts.

Could California's Drought Last 200 Years?

Clues from the past suggest the ocean's temperature may be a driver

Thomas M. Kostigen, National Geographic

Two years into California's drought, Donald Galleano's grapevines are scorched shrubs, their charcoal-colored stems and gnarled roots displaying not a lick of life. "I've never seen anything like this," says Galleano, 61, the third-generation owner of a 300-acre [vineyard in Mira Loma, California](#), that bears his name. "It's so dry ... There's been no measurable amount of rain.

Will Drought Redefine the California Lifestyle?

Julian Do, New America Media

Ever since moving to California nearly 40 years ago, with the last 15 spent in the Southland, I often hear about the infamous "drought" that keeps breaking records like a sport superstar. What's surprising is that despite its frequency, Californians react to each occurrence as a shock.

News worth noting: LADWP settles over Owens Lake dust control, Mad River steelhead spawning, dialogue on groundwater management reform, instream flows for NorCal coastal streams, and DWR awards IRWM grants

Maven, Maven's Notebook

LA DWP and Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District reach settlement agreement over Owens Lake Dust Control: *"The Great Basin Air Pollution Control District and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power jointly announce that they have settled a lawsuit brought by Great Basin against the City in Kern County Superior Court regarding payment of air pollution control fees. In the spirit of improved cooperation between the City and Great Basin, the parties agreed to settle the Kern lawsuit and resolve various appeals before the California Air Resources Board. There were no fines or penalties imposed. The City has agreed to provide \$1.2 million to Great Basin to be used for various air pollution mitigation projects throughout Inyo, Mono, and Alpine Counties, as well as \$150,000 to provide solar power for six public service districts in the southern Owens Valley. In addition, Great Basin and the City are continuing their discussions of new and efficient way to control air pollution from the dried Owens Lake Bed."* Source here: [LA DWP and GBUACPD reach settlement agreement](#)

[Joseph Galata](#) shared [Studio 7Arts's photo](#).

For our Reno singers, actors, musicians, writers, directors - since you may not be able to get to NYC - Constantine from American Idol and Tony award nominee for his Broadway performances will be here with us in Reno! I will be doing a 30 minute Tv internet interview with him and he will do a mini performance and master class for both adults and teens! Register a space NOW ! You as a Reno performing and creative artist don't want to miss this opportunity! See the poster below! We are soooooo excited! Reserve your spot for this unique evening to learn from a STAR!

Friday March 7th, Angel Reed, Executive Director of Studio 7Arts, will be bringing American Idol and Tony nominee, Constantine Maroulis, as a Guest Teaching Art...See More

Master Class Taught By
American Idol & Tony Nominee
CONSTANTINE MAROULIS

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THE MUSICAL

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Friday
3-7-14

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