

That's All She Wrote!



Our third annual Murder, She Wrote Festival took place earlier this month and I can happily report that it was a HUGE success. Everyone raved about the fun events, the beautiful town, the friendly shopkeepers, and the chance to gather in honor of Angela Lansbury. For those of you who are not what we *lovingly* call “Fangelas” this fandom can be a bit of its own mystery, but if you were lucky enough to be in town that weekend, you would have caught a glimpse of the attendees' unbridled joy and kindness. This photo shows 50 “Jogging Jessicas” all dressed in grey track suits and wigs, who jogged a few blocks through town and waving. A clip of this event went viral on social media and has been viewed nearly 2 million times!



We were also fortunate to have a reporter from [Newsweek](#) attend the Festival, and his article really captures the magic and the highlights of this gathering. Here's an excerpt, but we highly recommend reading the full article or watching the video.

Something magical happens when nostalgia becomes a destination. Not just a feeling you stumble into while scrolling through old memories, but a place you drive hours through coastal redwoods to

reach, pay money to enter and spend a weekend marinating in alongside hundreds of strangers who feel exactly the way you do about, say, a particular woman of a certain age on a 1980s TV show who solved mysteries every week.

We are grateful to everyone who helped make the 2026 Murder, She Wrote Festival such a successful fundraiser for the Kelley House Museum.

Thank you to our hardworking volunteers, generous sponsors (see below), wonderful special guests, vendors, and the dedicated fans who traveled from across the globe to celebrate with us.

Special thanks to Tim Benzie and Paul Joseph, whose boundless energy, creativity, and enthusiasm help make the festival so memorable. Paul (shown at left in photo) was our Cabot Cove Ball DJ this year and Tim (on right) hosts the ever-popular "[Solve Along a Murder, She Wrote.](#)"



We couldn't do this without our friends at the [Blair House Inn](#) (known to many as Jessica's house), innkeeper Helen and owner Grover, who generously host a reception every year. And much gratitude to the kindest actors you will ever have the pleasure to meet, Michael Horton (who played Jessica Fletcher's nephew Grady) and Debbie Zipp (Grady's wife in *Murder, She Wrote*, and Michael's wife in real life!), pictured here with Anne during their autograph signing.

If you click on the button below you can enjoy the photos taken by Kelley House volunteer Robert Dominy. You are welcome to use any of the Festival photos as long as you [credit Robert Dominy and the Kelley House Museum](#). Bob also put together a highlights reel for you to enjoy.

If you want to see more photos, just search on social media for the hashtag #MurderSheWroteFestival. Please tag us @KelleyHouseMuseum if you post any festival photos. Thank you to Carol Dominy for sharing and posting on social media. See you next year!

-Anne Semans, Director and Festival Hostess

[WATCH HIGHLIGHTS REEL](#)

[MURDER SHE WOTE PHOTO GALLERY](#)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Murder, She Wrote Festival 2027
May 21-23, 2027

Festival tickets will go on sale in September so keep your eye on this newsletter, which is where we announce it first. If you have friends who want to subscribe to our newsletter, do that [here](#).

For updates about the Festival and helpful planning advice, please bookmark the MSW Festival page after clicking the button below.

MSW FESTIVAL PAGE

Festival Merchandise

Bring home a little piece of the Murder, She Wrote Festival. All of our festival merchandise is now online and available for purchase. This year's festival art was done by a local artist and is featured on magnets and t-shirts. We also had the iconic images of Jessica's house and her typewriter put on mini tote bags. Shop for a host of other items, including signed copies of the photobook, *Memories of Cabot Cove*.



msw-fest-26-magnet-400x552 image

SHOP FESTIVAL MERCH

Upcoming Events



Annual Book Sale

Sunday, May 24th
10am - 3pm

Save the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend for a visit to the book sale at



Wedding-Fasion-Banner-for-Printer-1200x1800 image

New Exhibit

TYING THE KNOT: Bridal Fashion Unveiled

Exhibit runs June 4, 2026 – August 31, 2026

Opening reception: Saturday, June 13th, 4pm – 5:30pm

Travel back in time and down the aisle during “Tying the Knot: Bridal Fashion Unveiled.” Featuring archival photographs, artwork, and four historic wedding dresses worn by Mendocino brides from the mid-1860s to 1914, this exhibit showcases evolving trends in bridal styles: from a woman’s “Sunday best” dress to sequins and lace, from bright colors to pure white. You’ll even learn about a few Mendocino love stories along the way.

the Kelley House Museum in Mendocino. Thanks to the donation of some excellent art and history books, a great selection will be available on the east porch from 10am - 3pm. It's the perfect time to add some century-old books to your bookshelf, at bargain prices. Hosted by Katy Tahja.

[RSVP Reception](#)

[EXHIBIT INFO](#)

"Conservation Forever"

June 1 is last day to view this exhibit about Mendocino Land Trust

[Exhibit Info](#)

UPCOMING WALKING TOURS

Check our [tour calendar](#) for the most up-to-date list of tours and to buy advance tickets online. Tickets for all tours: \$25 per person. These tours are offered every week during the summer and special times over Memorial Day weekend.

Historic District Walking Tour
Saturdays at 11am

Haunted Mendocino Walking Tour
Wednesdays at 5pm
Saturday, May 23rd at 7pm

"Murder, She Wrote" Walking Tour
Saturday, May 23rd and May 30th at 11:30am
Sunday, May 24th at 11am

Private tours for your group can also be arranged. [Contact us](#) for more information.



[TOUR CALENDAR](#)

Thank you to this year's generous Murder, She Wrote Festival Sponsors!

Inns and Restaurants:

Blair House Inn, Harbor Lite Lodge, The Stanford Inn, Little River Inn, Noyo Harbor Inn, Nicholson House, MacCallum House, GoodLife Cafe & Bakery, North Coast Brewing

Co., Joshua Grindle Inn, Alegria Inn, Mendocino Cove Resort, Luna Restaurant, Dick's Place, Fog Eater Cafe, Patterson's Pub, Trillium Cafe and Inn, and Flow Restaurant.

Local Businesses:

Century 21 Seascape Realty, Murder Ridge Winery, Scharffenberger Cellars, Husch Vineyards, Fathers & Daughters Cellars, Meyer Family Cellars, Black Oak Coffee, Mendocino Cookie Company, Mendocino Tea Company, Out of this World, Village Sock Shop, Queen Bee, Partners Gallery, Whistlestop, Mendocino Jams & Preserves, Gallery Bookshop, Harvest Market, Bebe Lapin, Astoria Home Store, Mendocino Sandpiper Jewelry, Heavenly Soles, Highlight Gallery, My Chic Farmhouse, Rule 62, Den Modern, Zintara, and Mendo Parks.

**Kelley House Museum &
Research Center**
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