Top 9 things to do in Cincinnati this weekend: Oct. 22-25

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A Stripped-Down Show

The Skivvies, on stage at Ensemble Theatre through Saturday, will offer, ahem, stripped-down performances from singer-musicians Lauren Molina and Fairfield native Nick Cearley. The artists play cover and original songs on the cello, ukulele, glockenspiel and melodica -- all while dressed in their undies. It’s a playful premise, but the music is the main draw; the award-winning duo plays frequently to sold-out audiences in New York. (Watch them perform with ex-"Nashville" star Laura Benanti here.)

10:30 p.m. Thursday, 11 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Ensemble Theatre, 1127 Vine St., Over-the-Rhine. $30. www.ensemblecincinnati.org
Ready, Set, Gawk

LEGOs aren't just for kids to play with -- they also can be used to create mind-blowingly creative works of art. Nathan Sawaya has done just that for “The Art of the Brick” exhibit at Cincinnati Museum Center, using LEGO to re-create classic works of art (think Vincent Van Gogh’s “The Starry Night”) and build original creations as well. (Make sure to see the piece he created especially for Cincinnati.) There’s also an interactive area where kids and adults can indulge their inner LEGO artists. You’ll never look at those plastic toys in quite the same way.

Opens 10 a.m. Friday. (Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday.) Tickets: adult, $19.50; children, $12.50; seniors, $17.50; member adult, $12.50 member child, $8.50. Runs through May 1, 2016. www.cincymuseum.org

Want to Race Through a Cemetery?

I don’t run, but I love to watch Run Like Hell. Hundreds of racers dressed in fun costumes hit the streets for this 5K to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. This year’s route starts (and finishes) on Woodburn Avenue, and racers will travel from Dana Avenue, to Victory Parkway, through a cemetery and back. Yes, I said through a cemetery. It’s a creepy good time, and you still have time to register to run. There’s a costume afterparty, too, with food and drinks, craft beer and live music.

7:30 p.m. Friday. Starts at 3614 Woodburn Ave. Advance registration, $40; day of race, $45; party-only tickets, $10. cincyrunlikehell.com

A New Day for Red Door Project

You may have heard of the Red Door Project, the pop-up gallery in Over-the-Rhine that invites people to create art around a theme each month for a one-night exhibition. For the first time, Red Door will move outside OTR -- and it won’t be held on Final Friday. This month’s show, themed “Masquerade,” is Friday at the Clifton Cultural Arts Center. Come take in the art -- it’s the perfect warm-up for Halloween!

6-9:30 p.m. Friday. Clifton Cultural Arts Center, 3711 Clifton Ave. Free admission. For more details, visit the event’s Facebook page.
All Aboard for Beer

If you love craft beer, take note: BB Riverboats is hosting its first Craft Beershock Cruise on Saturday aboard the Belle of Cincinnati. There will be 15 craft breweries and 60 different beers available to sample, and each ticket includes 20 beer samples of your choice. Bonus: If you’re a WCPO Insider, you can get $15 off a general admission ticket.

9-11 p.m. Saturday. (Boarding time is 8 p.m.) 101 Riverboat Row, Newport. $45. www.bbriverboats.com

Speaking of Beer ...

The Beer Baron Ball at Horseshoe Casino offers a great reason to get dressed up this weekend. The annual fundraiser for the Cincinnati Brewing Heritage Trail features live music from the Sound Body Jazz Orchestra, craft beer, dinner and a dessert buffet. Organizers also will discuss the state of the Brewery District and the Brewing Heritage Trail before inducting the newest members to the Beer Baron Hall of Fame.

There’s also a less expensive option: Buy a ticket for the afterparty only. DJ ETrayn will provide the soundtrack. (You might recognize him as the DJ for the Bengals’ home games this season.) Each afterparty ticket includes two drinks, plus a gift.

6:30 p.m. Friday. Afterparty: 9:30 p.m. Friday. Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati, 1000 Broadway St., Downtown. $125; afterparty-only ticket: $40. www.beerbaronball.org

Remembering Mapplethorpe

It has been 25 years since “The Perfect Moment,” the Contemporary Arts Center’s controversial exhibition of Robert Mapplethorpe’s photos. (Long story short: Law enforcement officials condemned the images as obscene and the CAC’s director was put on trial and later acquitted.) The CAC and FotoFocus have teamed up to host a two-day symposium of curators, critics and artists who will discuss the exhibit’s lingering impact and Mapplethorpe’s legacy.

Friday and Saturday. See the schedule of events for Friday and Saturday and RSVP on Eventbrite.

Savor These Fall Flavors

This sounds like a delicious fall bounty. Jungle Jim’s is hosting its first Fall Smash event, where you can sample dozens of pumpkin beers and