

**FAN**

FAMILY ACTION NETWORK

@anfan\_smith



# Year of the Monkey: An Evening with Patti Smith

Writer, performer, and visual artist. Founder of the Patti Smith Group, with 12 album releases since 1974, including *Horses*, hailed as one of the top 100 albums of all time by *Rolling Stone* magazine.

National Book Award-winning author of *Just Kids*, *M Train*, and the forthcoming *Year of the Monkey*.

**Saturday, October 26, 2019, 7:00 PM**  
**Evanston Township High School Auditorium**  
**1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201**

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,  
 in partnership with Evanston Township High School D202, Francis W. Parker School,  
 and North Shore Country Day School.

This event is **#freeandopentothepublic** and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+. **INFO: [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)**

**#familyactionnetwork #movingconversationsforward #alwayslearning #timewellspent**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: PATTI SMITH**

**CONTACT:** Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

**Saturday, October 26, 2019, 7:00 PM, Year of the Monkey: An Evening with Patti Smith, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201.**

From the **National Book Award**-winning author of *Just Kids* and *M Train*, **Patti Smith's Year of the Monkey** is a profound, beautifully realized memoir in which dreams and reality are vividly woven into a tapestry of one transformative year. Following a three-night run of concerts at San Francisco's legendary Fillmore, she finds herself tramping the coast of Santa Cruz on New Year's Day, 2016, about to embark on a year of solitary wandering. In February, a surreal lunar year begins, bringing unexpected turns, heightened mischief, and inescapable sorrow. In a stranger's words, "Anything is possible: after all, it's the Year of the Monkey." For Smith – inveterately curious, always exploring, tracking thoughts, writing – the year evolves as one of reckoning: with loss, aging, and a dramatic shift in the political landscape of America.

In *Year of the Monkey*, Smith melds the western landscape with her own dreamscape. Taking readers from California to the Arizona desert; to a Kentucky farm as the amanuensis of a friend in crisis; to the hospital room of a valued mentor; and by turns to remembered and imagined places, this haunting memoir blends fact and fiction with poetic mastery. The unexpected happens; grief and disillusionment set in. But as Smith heads toward a new decade in her own life, she offers this balm to the reader: her wisdom, wit, gimlet eye, and above all, a rugged hope for a better world.

Smith is a writer, performer, and visual artist. She gained recognition in the 1970s for her revolutionary merging of poetry and rock. She formed the **Patti Smith Group** in 1974, and she has released twelve albums over the decades, including *Horses*, which has been hailed as one of the top one hundred albums of all time by *Rolling Stone*. She is widely considered one the most influential figures in the New York punk rock movement.

Smith's *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Just Kids* documents her early years in 1970's Manhattan and her close relationship with the acclaimed photographer Robert Mapplethorpe. *Just Kids* won the **2010 National Book Award for Nonfiction**. Other books include *Witt*, *Babel*, *Woolgathering*, *The Coral Sea*, *Auguries of Innocence*, *M Train*, and *Devotion*.

In 2005, the French Ministry of Culture awarded Ms. Smith the title of **Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres**, the highest honor given to an artist by the French Republic. She was inducted into the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** in 2007.

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