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BEST ART PICS 2019 As is tradition for this second-to-last column of the year, **Arts DEVO** shuts up and stands back and appreciates his favorite photographs to appear alongside the arts stories in the CN&R over the past 12 months. As always, thank you, photographers, for making us writers look good.



Photographer Douglas Keister documented the "inferno, aftermath and recovery" of the Camp Fire in his book, *People, Places and Pieces of Paradise*, including this shot of artist Jess Mercer holding a jar of fire victims' keys to be used in "The Key Phoenix" sculpture she unveiled in Paradise on the anniversary of the fire. PHOTO BY DOUGLAS KEISTER



All of Bidwell Park was a stage for actor John Crosthwaite, who played the title character in the new Legacy Stage theater company's maiden production, *Macbeth*, set in the outdoors last fall. PHOTO BY CAREY JEAN PHOTOGRAPHY



Butte County native Shane Grammer garnered much national media attention for his 17 Beauty From Ashes murals painted amid the ruins of the Camp Fire, including the haunting "Holding Onto Hope," installed inside a burned-out shop on the Skyway. PHOTO BY SHANE GRAMMER



The outside Museum of Northern California Art was impressively done up for the Cirque du MONCA gala fundraising party last spring. PHOTO BY ROBERT SPEER



Paradise band Aberrance in front of ruins of the "Fortress of Duditude," the house/practice space the members shared before the Camp Fire. PHOTO BY JAKE HOLLINGSWORTH