

APRIL
2016

Florence Events Center

Center Stage

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"Shrek Jr."**
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Find your treasure at the FFEC Indoor Yard Sale

Be the first in line when doors open for the ever-popular Indoor Yard Sale at the FEC April 2, beginning at 8 a.m. Coffee will be waiting for early-bird shoppers, along with booth after booth of treasures ranging from \$1 bargain items to antiques, tools, collectibles, prints, table linens, glass, jewelry, miniatures, art, music, needlework, books, household items, sporting goods, neon signs, clothing, shoes, furniture, appliances, vintage glass and more.

For more information, call the FEC at 541-997-1994 or visit www.eventcenter.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL:

FFEC Indoor yard Sale — April 2
SEAcost's Shuffle Concert — April 7
Dancing with Sea Lions Showcase — April 9
Early Rhody Show — April 15, 16 and 17
CROW's "Shrek the Musical Jr." — April 15, 16 and 17
Jazz Kings — April 23
LRP's "Diary of Anne Frank" — April 22, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 30

MAY:

Community Chorus spring concert — May 1
FACC Aging in Place — May 7
FRAA Poetry Slam — May 7
FURA workshop — May 10
Rhody Showcase Performance — May 11
SEAcost's New Hot Club concert — May 12
Wine and Wallflowers — May 14
FRAA Rhody Art Show — May 19, 20, 21 and 22



ONGOING EVENTS:
Florence Rotary Club luncheon -
Tuesdays at noon

'Sea Life' themed art exhibit part of FEC's 20-year celebration

Dozens of local artists are part of a themed Rent-a-Rod exhibit at the FEC titled "Sea Life" in Gallery One. This two-month exhibit is part of the Florence Event Center's 20th anniversary celebration this month, with the special exhibit continuing through May and Florence's annual Rhododendron Festival.

A special artists reception will be held April 9, as part of that

day's official anniversary celebration. The show will include 2-D and 3-D artwork, including paintings, photography, ceramics, wood carvings and more.

For more information, contact the FEC office at 541-997-1994, or visit www.eventcenter.org



'Sentimental Journey' will bring Jazz Kings to Florence

The Emerald City Jazz Kings will return to the FEC Saturday, April 23, for a matinee performance titled "Sentimental Journey," beginning at 2 p.m.

The performance examines the last four years of the Swing Era, 1943 thru '46. Expect hits from the likes of Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, Jimmy Dorsey, Harry James, and Bing Crosby. In addition, the show includes songs from Judy Garland, Les Brown, Doris Day, Tommy Dorsey, Peggy Lee, and Nat King Cole. A few of the songs you should look forward to hearing are "Why Don't You

Do Right?" "Leap Frog," "Perdido," "I've Heard That Song Before," "I Had the Craziest Dream," "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart," "Besame Mucho," "You'll Never Know," "Sentimental Journey," "On the Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe," "Opus One," and "Aren't You Glad You're You?" among many others.

Tickets are available at the Florence Events Center box office or online at www.eventcenter.org.

For more information, contact the FEC at 541-997-1994.

CENTERSTAGE

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Rod McCulloch

CROW to present hilarious spring production of Shrek the Musical Jr.



More than 2,000 people attended last year's Florence Home and Garden Show, with even more visitors

expected for this year's 20th annual event.

"We base the success of the show on comments about the quality and variety

of vendors we receive from those attending and vendor feedback and sales," says Jon Thompson, general

manager of KCST Radio, which co-sponsors the event. "We've been told numerous times that our show is one of the best, even in comparison to much larger venues."

Thompson said local businesses are the highest priority, but bringing in out-of-area vendors with products and services that cannot be found in the Florence area is also critical to its success. Custom wood products, kitchenware, hot tubs, spas, skylights and dozens of vendors featuring products and services for both the home and garden will pack the Florence Events Center.

Landscape designs will feature local crafted garden art, including sculptures, plants and glass art. Urban designs will highlight planting ideas to create a haven for wildlife. Low-maintenance and native plant selections will give homeowners great ideas on enhancing their yards to add color, texture and wildlife habitat.

Show hours are from 2 to 6 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 6.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under. Admission is free from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday.



Public invited to come Dancing with Sea Lions



Porter the Sea Lion will take the stage in her many artistic incarnations thanks to the work of 20 area artists, each of whom has created his or her own one-of-a-kind creation using a large fiberglass blank canvas of Porter. The original 20 life-sized sea lion statues arrived at the Florence Events Center

in February and then were dispersed to each of the artists participating in the Dancing with Sea Lions project.

After submitting their ideas and acquiring their sponsors, the artists have spent the last two months preparing for their “big reveal” April 8 at a special VIP

reception, followed by a public showcase April 9 at the FEC.

The statues are part of the FEC’s 20th anniversary celebration, “Dancing with Sea Lions.”

All 20 sea lions will gather at the FEC for display before being installed at locations

in Florence, as well as spots between Reedsport and Newport.

The April 9 public showcase will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come experience a one-of-a-kind Shuffle Concert

“You choose, we play,” say the members of the world-class ensemble, Shuffle Concert.

“From Baroque to classical and romantic; from jazz, to pop and Broadway, this group is so multitalented they let the audience select the pieces they will play,” says Nancy Pearson, director of SEAc coast Entertainment Association which is producing the concert. “You’ve never been to a concert like this. Every performance is a completely customized and memorable experience. It really is like putting your iPod on shuffle; only better because it’s live.”

Shuffle Concert will perform in a rare Thursday evening concert April 7, at 7 p.m., at the Florence Events Center. They will give a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m. Also, Shuffle Concert members will present an informal performance at the Florence Senior Center on April 8, as part of SEAc coast’s arts and cultural outreach and enrichment program. The 1 p.m. event is free and open to the public.

“At a Shuffle Concert performance, the audience does not receive a traditional program as they enter the concert hall. Instead, they get a number and a ‘musical menu,’” explains Pearson. “Members of the group pick a number out of a hat, the audience member holding that number then selects the piece they want to hear from the menu.”

And the menu is amazing.

Between 40 and 50 items including styles from Americana to French, from Spanish/Latin to Jewish; and covering periods from Baroque to Romanic to Classical to early- and mid-20th century. Performances by Shuffle Concert, and Quattrosound last October, were in part sponsored by a grant from the Western States Art Federation and National Endowment for the arts, secured by SEAc coast board director Sandy Kuhlman.

The New York City-based, mixed-genre Shuffle Concert was born in 2010 while founder and artistic director Eliran Avni was exercising on the elliptical machine at the gym. His MP3 player jumped from a Pretenders song to the first movement of Prokofiev’s Fifth Symphony, nearly causing him to lose his balance. The six core members — Avni (piano), Ariadne Greif (soprano), Brendan Speltz (violin), Moran Katz (clarinet), Sofia Nowik (cello), and Hassan Anderson (oboe) — are all classically trained chamber musicians, but can handle (Handel?) everything from Beethoven to Björk to Gershwin to Stevie Wonder.

Anand Giridharadas, critic for The New York Times, writes: “To be in the room that evening was to discover the

tension and the drama of never knowing what’s next... As they played, they swayed... They moved as if the music were something they were riding atop, not creating.”

“SEAc coast’s season wraps up Friday, May 13, when The New Hot Club of America heats up the FEC,” says Pearson. “This dazzling ensemble is comprised of some of today’s top gypsy jazz artists in North America. You’ll want to tango in your

seat as they recapture the sound, style, and spirit of the 1930’s-era Hot Club of France.”

Tickets, artist profiles, show times, video clips and more are available at SEAc coast EA.org. Tickets are \$30 or \$10 for those age 17 and younger.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street; by phone at 541-997-1994 or online at eventcenter.org.

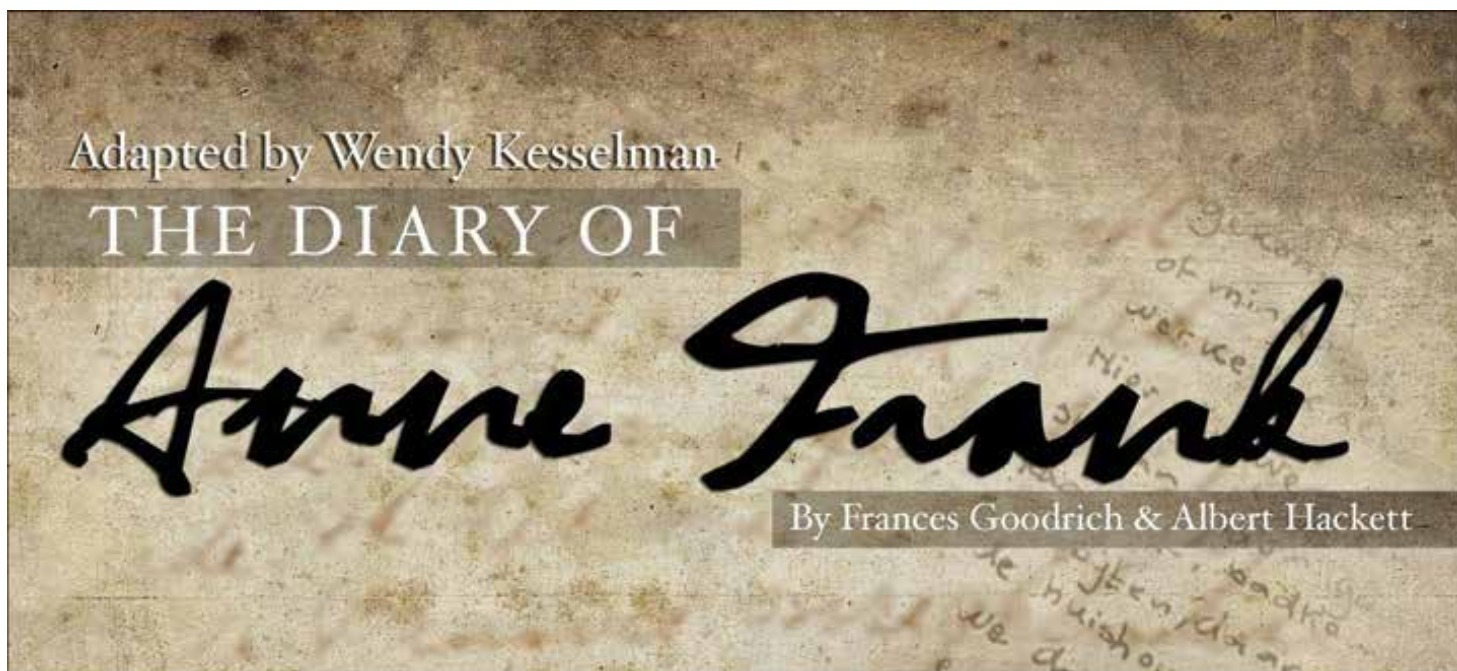


LRP production of 'Anne Frank' is powerful retelling

The latest production of Anne Frank, being produced by Florence's Last Resort Players, is a retelling of the well-known play based on Anne Frank's diary, which was reclaimed by her father, Otto Frank, when he returned to the Annex following the end of WWII. He was the final survivor of the families that had hidden there. He released some but not all of the writings in the diary, as he thought some of the reflections she wrote about might offend the tenants of the annex — particularly Anne's opposition to her mother, which he felt didn't honor their memory.

Those newly released writings and survivor accounts have been interwoven into a powerful, intimate adaptation of Anne Frank's story. Audience members find themselves going back in time as cast members enter an era where human moral is shattered by horrific changes.

But somewhere in a small annex a little girl finds the courage to survive. During two years of hiding, Anne Frank



records daily activities and conversations with wit and astonishing honesty. The audience learns through a mature 13-year-old that the human heart truly can defeat the fear of death. In this drama, the Last

Resort Players invites the audience to witness what life may have been like for the Frank family — living a claustrophobic existence together, as eight people try to contain their fear of what is to come, as well as grief for what was lost.

And hope for a peace that allows them to return to their ordinary lives.

History plays out in front of the audience in this adaptation for those who know the story well, and for a new generation that has yet to understand the gift of what Anne Frank gave to humanity through her diary.

LRP is introducing three young actors to the stage for the upcoming production of Anne Frank. Memphis Gliewe will play the leading role of Anne Frank. Memphis is a talented 8th-grader who attends Siuslaw Middle School. She has been involved in several LRP productions, including "Our Town." Gliewe is also actively involved in Indian Education, and plays the trumpet in band. Her character in Anne Frank explores deep, intimate emotions throughout the play, and she is said to capture those moments with maturity and skill.

Brooklyn Cahoon is taking on the role of Margot Frank, Anne's older sister. Cahoon is also an 8th grader at Siuslaw Middle School and in her first role for LRP. Cahoon spends her extra time volunteering in her local church helping teach children. The young actress also loves playing guitar and singing all genres of music.

Cahoon says she enjoys the learning

process of theater and the opportunity to stretch herself beyond her shy comfort zone.

Kyle Hight plays Peter Van Daan. His character in Anne Frank is shy, quiet and clumsy, but Hight couldn't be further from those traits off stage.

A freshman at Siuslaw High School, Hight is an active, well-spoken and sure-footed student. He is active in his community and loves hanging out with friends, listening to music or playing video games.

Like Cahoon, this is his first LRP play and he has reached above and beyond to relate with his character.

These three young actors are in the midst of many talented performers, who have offered mentorship on and off of the stage.

Additional cast members include:

Otto Frank (Dana Rodet); Edith Frank (Kate Gibson); Mr. Van Daan (Jim Wellington); Mrs. Van Daan (Jackie Crave); Mr. Dussel (Grant Harmond); Miep Gies (Trudie Cahoon); Mr. Kraler (Paul Deemer); Nazi Officers (James Bonisteel and Jamison Smith).

The Diary of Anne Frank will be performed April 22, 23, 28 and 29, at 7 p.m., and April 24 and 30, at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available now at The Florence Events Center, 715 Quince Street. Box office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or visit www.eventcenter.org.

For more information, call the FEC at 541-997-1994.



Rhododendrons to bloom at early flower show

Get a sneak peek and scent of freshly blooming rhododendrons at the Early Rhododendron Flower Show April 15 and 16. The flower show, held each year by the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society (ARS), takes place one month before the annual Rhododendron Festival Rhody Show, which takes place this year May 19-22.

Both flower shows are held at the Florence Events Center and are judged. The aim is to educate and introduce the public to as many varieties of rhododendrons as possible. The show is open to the public – without charge – as soon as judging is

completed.

Either of the rhododendron flower shows is a great place to find what flowers would look great in your garden and view varieties of both rhododendrons and azaleas from around the world. The Siuslaw Chapter also has an outdoor plant sale during both shows. Many selections of rhododendrons and azaleas are available for a reasonable price.

Doors open at noon to the public for this year's Early Rhody Show on Saturday and remain open until 5 p.m. On Sunday, viewing will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Community Chorus to include special guests for spring concert

The Siuslaw High School Chamber Choir, the Encore Dancers, CROW Kids and the Flotones will all be special

guest performers at the May 1 Community Chorus of Florence performance.

The spring concert, titled "Irving Berlin Meets Uncle Sam," will include a number of patriotic songs as well as old favorites that people enjoy singing or humming along with.

Irving Berlin wrote hundreds of songs, many becoming major hits, which made him a "legend" before he turned 30. During his 60-year career, Berlin wrote an estimated 1,500 songs, including the scores

for 19 Broadway shows and 18 Hollywood films, with his songs nominated eight times for Academy Awards.

The concert will be held Sunday, May 1, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Florence Events Center.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, with attendees age 18 and younger admitted free.

Tickets can be purchased at the FEC box office or by calling 541-997-1994. Visit www.eventcenter.org.

Community Chorus of Florence
presents
Irving Berlin
meets
Uncle Sam
with music by: Jennifer Weiler

Tickets: \$10 Adults, Children Free

Sunday, May 1, 2 p.m. at Florence Events Center

Performance Guests: FloTones, Encore Dancers, CROW Kids, Siuslaw High School Chamber Choir

Poets to participate in FRAA Poetry Fest

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) will present the Big Wave Poetry Fest on May 7. The Spoken Word Poetry Contest begins at 6 p.m. with as many as 40 poets "throwing down" their best original rhymes and stanzas in poems lasting up to 3 minutes.

Top prize is \$500, along with \$250 for second place and \$100 of third place.

A special youth poetry contest will be held at 2 p.m., with the winner receiving \$100, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place.

For more information, visit the FRAA website at fraaoregon.org.

BIG WAVE POETRY FEST

Ride the Words

Saturday, May 7, 2016
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Royal court to take center stage for Rhody Showcase May 11

This year's junior and senior Rhody Courts are gearing up for the Rhododendron Court Scholarship Showcase set for Wednesday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Once known as the Rhododendron Pageant and now held in advance of the annual Rhododendron Festival, the event features local high school seniors who will compete for scholarships and titles as Queen Rhododendra and King the of the Coast, with their reign taking place May 19-22 during Rhododendron Days.

The showcase will be a night of rhodies as beautiful bouquets decorate the main stage at the FEC, along with video presentations by senior princes, talents by the senior princesses, dance numbers and interviews.

In addition, a junior court of as many as five princesses will represent grades 1 through 5 from both Florence and Mapleton.



For the past several weeks, members of the Senior Rhody Court and Junior Princesses have been serving as ambassadors for the festival by visiting senior residences, volunteering in the community and, most recently, rehearsing their talents for the fun-filled Rhody Showcase.

Court members will be judged individually on participation, mentorship, public speaking and platform presentation, pin sales and talent.

Queen Rhododendra and King of the Coast will be crowned at the end of the showcase, and both courts will make appearances in the the Kids Parade and Grand Floral Parade during the 109th Rhododendron Festival, May 19 through 22.

SEAc coast to host music of New Hot Club

On Friday, May 13, at 7pm you'll be in luck when The New Hot Club of America comes to "wow" Florence. This dazzling ensemble is comprised of some of today's top gypsy jazz artists in North America. You'll want to tango in your seat as they recapture the sound, style, and spirit of the 1930's-era Hot Club of France.

Tickets, artist profiles, show times, video clips, and more information are available at SEAc coastEA.org. Tickets are \$30, or \$10 for those under 18. Tickets may also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street; or by phone at 541-997-1994 or online at www.eventcenter.org. Pre-concert talk time of 6:15 p.m.



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FRAA hosting Rhody Days art exhibit

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) will present its second-annual Rhody Days Arts Festival at the Florence Events Center Saturday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This free show and sale of unique works of art and fine craftsmanship fills Galleries 4 and 5 and overflows into the Lobby. It is a great way to find a creative treasure and benefit a cause, with artists donating 10 percent of their sales to the FEC.

Enjoy demonstrations by local favorites and discover new artists as well. Artists and vendors come from Eugene, Seal Rock, Coquille, Elmira, Walport, Corvallis and Gresham as well as the Florence area.

Artists contributing to the exhibit include: Richard Anderson, obsidian knives; Doris Andrews, shadow boxes; Beverly Apple, vintage copper jewelry; Claudia

Brown, sea glass and beadwork designs; Cindi Covert, crocheted hats and scarves; Beverly Egli, painted saws; Nancy Gant, lampwork; Sandra Kay Hayes, fabric and linen items; Charlee Hendricksen, beadwork; Larry and Holly Herr, small wooden boxes; Debbie Kiturkes, hand painted pottery; Patti Land, pottery; Guy Lundy, wire wrapping and rocktography; Ralph and Vicki Martin, wood scroll art; Ken McDougal, photography; Karen Nichols, torn paper painting and books; Pam Parker, watercolors and pyrography; Teresa Saylor, quilts; Karen Skulley, knit/crochet and quilts; Kathi Smith, knit shawls; Karen Souza, mixed media and warm glass; Jeanne Ternahan, fabric hand bags; Linda Thompson, photography and cards; and Robert Triplett, wood boxes.

Contact Claudia Brown for more information at 541-902-1933.



An evening of Wallflowers and Wine returns

Come create your own wall art with artist John Leasure while enjoying a glass

of wine Saturday, May 14, beginning at 6:30 p.m. All the paints, canvas and art

instruction are provided to create your own sunflower masterpiece. Tickets are \$40 per person and include a free beverage (one glass of wine or non-alcoholic choice) and a multitude of delicious snacks while participants are given professional, step-by-step painting instruction.

Space is limited, so reserve your spot by visiting www.eventcenter.org, stopping by the FEC box office at 715 Quince Street, or by calling the box office at 541-997-1994.

This fun event is sponsored by the Friends of the Florence Events Center.

