

Folk festival to celebrate youth music

Sisters Folk Festival (SFF) is celebrating the release of the 2018 Americana Project CD, and the completion of hand-made guitars and ukuleles through the Americana Luthier Program.

On Wednesday, June 6, students of the Sisters Americana Project are releasing the program's 15th full-length record, "The Paths We Take," with songs written and recorded by students of Sisters High School. The concert is at 7 p.m. at The Belfry in Sisters.

In the Americana Project — the educational outreach program of Sisters Folk Festival — Sisters High School students learn to play guitar, write songs, perform, and are introduced to the science and art of audio engineering. The recording project is designed to provide a learning opportunity for students to record in a professional studio, learn as artists from the experience and to share their work publicly. The students work with local engineer and producer Brent Alan while collaborating with friends and fellow musicians. The collaborative nature of music-making has been nurtured through projects in class, as well as during the Americana Song Academy for

Youth, where many of the students perform with peer musicians and students from other schools.

This year's recording showcases 18 original songs. It features the work of the Americana Project's aspiring young musicians, and will be a final send-off for senior students including Rylee Funk, Shae Gascon, Lachlan Wood, Cassidy Ling-Scott, Cole Pade, Makila Lajko, Rylee Weber and Engracia Diez. Diez also provided photography and design for the album artwork.

This year's CD project was supported by funding from the Dottie and Eli Ashley Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation.

The Paths We Take features many younger students as well, as the program nurtures and cultivates a safe environment to be self-expressive and to create original music.

On Monday, June 11, the Americana Luthier Program is celebrating the completion of student-made guitars and ukuleles. The showcase will be held at 6:30 p.m. at Sisters High School and is free to the public.

The Luthier Program is a collaboration between

Sisters Folk Festival, Sisters School District and Breedlove Guitars, and supported by funding from Sisters Folk Festival. The program, which was started in 2006 by Jayson Bowerman and Sisters High School teacher Tony Cosby, instructs students in the age-old craft of building acoustic musical instruments. The guitar-building program is led by Tony Cosby, the engineering and woodworking instructor at Sisters High School; with engineering integration from Kerry Bott, SFF board chair and former Intel engineer. The ukulele program is led by Bill MacDonald of Kona Breeze Ukes, with support from David Perkins. Both classes have an enthusiastic, capable and dedicated group of volunteers.

"They learn many life lessons, including patience, perseverance and resiliency, while also learning career-related woodworking skills," said Brad Tisdell, creative director of Sisters Folk Festival and co-founder of the Americana Project. "The Americana Luthier Project is one of two guitar-building programs in the country in a public-school setting, and demonstrates why arts programming, coupled

with integrated curriculum opportunities, makes Sisters' schools special. And students not only have a new set of skills, they have an instrument they can keep for life."

Programs like the Americana Luthier Project and the creation of an annual CD are made possible through donations and grants, and through the community and artist-supported My Own Two Hands, the annual fundraiser for Sisters Folk Festival. To help support these and other arts-related learning opportunities in Sisters' schools, donations can be made at www.sistersfolk.org/donate-sff.

Suggested donation for the CD Release Concert is



\$15 adults, \$10 students (door sales only — no advance sales), which includes this year's CD. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 7 p.m. The Belfry is located at 302 E. Main Ave. The Americana Luthier Showcase, which is free and open to the public, starts at 6:30 p.m. at Sisters High School on Monday, June 11. For information on all 2018 Sisters Folk Festival events, visit sistersfolkfestival.org or call 541-549-4979.

PROSPEROUS SISTERS
How can we ensure good paying jobs?
 — The second of four forums —

JOIN THE CONVERSATION...
 Monday, June 4, 1-4 p.m.
 Aspen Lakes, Brand 33

Please email to reserve your seat!
jpiper@ci.sisters.or.us

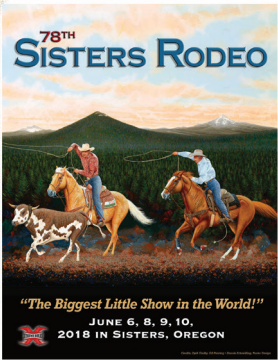
Shop Local. Shop Sisters.

While you are here for the 78th Annual Sisters Rodeo, let us help you re-discover Sisters Country! We invite you to stay in one of our unique lodging properties, spend some time strolling through our 1880s-themed town and explore the one-of-a-kind owner-operated shops, boutiques, galleries and restaurants, or get outside for an adventure.

Check out our mobile app you can download at your app store or come visit us at the Sisters Chamber office, 291 E Main Ave.

Experience the hospitality of the Old West.

Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce
 866.549.0252 541.549.0251
www.SistersCountry.com



Posters available at the Chamber office