

Music review features Inland Northwest Musicians

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BAKER CITY — This summer's Powder River Music Review kicks off Sunday, June 12, with a performance by the Inland Northwest Musicians.

The pops concert, under the direction of R. Lee Friese, begins at 4 p.m. at Geiser-Pollman Park. There is no admission fee, but donations are welcome.

This concert is the final production of the 2021-2022 season for the Inland Northwest Orchestra and Chorale, and is the first concert of the summer for the Powder River Music Review summer concert series.

Named Oregon's Best Music Festival in 2014, the Powder River Music Review summer concert series takes place every Sunday afternoon, 4-5:30 p.m., from mid-June through August with musical performers from throughout



Inland Northwest Musicians/Contributed Photo

The Inland Northwest Musicians will perform Sunday, June 12, to kick off the Powder River Music Review summer concert series at Geiser-Pollman Park in Baker City.

Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

The June 12 Inland Northwest Musicians concert will feature 65 musicians with a full orchestra and chorale.

"The last performance in Baker City in August of 2021 did not include the chorus due to COVID concerns, so the ability to perform with both ensembles is a joy," said Lori Johnson, program support for the INWM.

Orchestral selections will include a patriotic tribute giving

recognition to those who have served in all branches of the military with a piece arranged by Bob Lowden titled "Armed Forces Salute" featuring the official songs of the U.S. Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Air Force and Navy.

Also to be performed are pieces from "The Entertainer" by Scott Joplin and a concert suite from "Dances With Wolves" by John Barry. Rounding out the orchestral selections are two LeRoy Anderson pieces: "Fiddle-Fiddle" featuring the string

ensemble and "Bugler's Holiday" featuring a trumpet trio.

Chorale pieces include old-time classics such as "Lollipop," "As Time Goes By," "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat" and "Summertime."

Johnson said also featured will be a seldom performed piece "I Am An American," accompanied by the orchestra and narrated by retired music educator Ralph Werner of Hermiston.

"I am an American" reminds us of the common heritage,

freedom and pride we share as a country," Johnson said.

It was composed by Carmen Dragon and is based on a prize-winning essay titled "I Speak for Democracy" written in 1954 by an Akron, Ohio, high school student named Elizabeth Ellen Evans.

ABOUT THE INWM

Founded in 1999, Inland Northwest Musicians is composed of volunteer musicians from Northeastern Oregon and Southeastern Washington.

The performance ensembles include the Inland Northwest Orchestra, Inland Northwest Chorale and Willow Creek Symphony, who all present concerts throughout the region in communities of all sizes. Admission to all concerts is free of charge, funded by corporate sponsors, grants, local concert sponsorships and individual donations. For more information, visit inlandnorthwestmusicians.com.

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