

Rock on CJ with Carla's Rockstravaganza on KXCJ



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When Carla Gillard moved to the Valley from Albuquerque, New Mexico five years ago she never thought she'd be a radio DJ for our community radio station KXCJ! The host of "Rockstravaganza!" is a newbie DJ with a penchant for rock and roll and approaches her show with an enthusiasm you can hear in her voice. She grew up "30 miles in the middle of nowhere" in Socorro, New Mexico.

"The closest experience to being on the radio I've ever had was being in theater class in school," said Gillard. Although Indie Rock is her passion she went with a more classic rock show because she had more music to support a program with that theme.

"Caroline Griffith gets the credit for getting me involved in the station," she said. "I worked with Caroline at the library and

when I heard her on the radio I thought, 'If Caroline can do it I can!'" Gillard volunteers at the Josephine County Public Library Cave Junction branch on weekends when she gets a break from her full-time job working for Josephine County in the Human Resources Department. Sometimes the additional work and hours it takes to put together a show seems a little overwhelming but, she adds, "When I get to the studio and put on the headphones and start playing the music I feel great and I'm so glad I'm doing it!"

When asked what she likes most about being a DJ for KXCJ she pauses for a moment and then said with a laugh, "The music! I love the music I get to play and sometime I get so into a song I forget that I have to get the next one lined up. Then there's a scramble to get the next tune rolling."

Gillard relies predominately on CDs for her show but is branching out to include more LPs as it gives her a broader selection of music to pull from. About one-third of her

show comes from CDs that she gleans from the library. "I go online and check out the selection in Grants Pass, which tends to be better than in Cave Junction, and then I just request it be sent to the I.V. Branch."

In her spare time she models occasionally for the Takilma Hearing Group in addition to going out to hear local music with friends whenever she can. She grew up listening to live music as her parents owned a restaurant/bar that featured live music.

KXCJ manager Keeeth says that, for him, one of the highlights of the broadcasting week is when "Carla G" signs off at the end of her show and says, "Keep on Rockin' Cave Junction!" He loves the passion and excitement in her voice in addition to the great music. The show airs on 105.7 FM, Friday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. and features great rock and roll from the '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s as well as some Indie gems thrown in there to keep you coming back for more.

Chateau ...

Continued from A-1

The Friends group also plans to raise nearly \$5 million to complete and implement a Furnishings Plan to restore the 23 guest rooms, kitchen and lobby, and to restore the iconic Monterey Furniture Collection.

The public is invited to visit the Chateau during these final months before the 2-year closure. The Chateau has been managed by Oregon Caves Outfitters, a project of the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCanDO) for over 17 years.

Out of 9,000 tourism destinations, the Chateau was listed by Oregon Business Magazine as a "Top 100 Fan-Favorite Destination in Oregon" for both 2017 and 2018, the first two years of the competition. Rankings are determined by compiling over 22,000 online reviews from Trip Advisor, Yelp and Google.

In 2017, the Chateau served 27,000 meals and lodged 7,000 guests and will be open for business from May 3, through Sept. 30 this year. Accommodations range from economy to suite. Limited handicap access is available. The charming 1930's style Caves Café serves breakfast and lunch while the formal dining room offers expansive canyon views. Free live music events are listed at OregonCavesChateau.com. Call 541-592-3400 for reservations.

With the concession contract ending this November, it marks the end of 18 years of direct local community contributions to the management of the Chateau at the Oregon Caves National Monument and a great example of an era where partnership and collaboration have played a significant role in meeting Illinois Valley community development goals. Oregon Caves Outfitters is an Authorized Concessionaire of the National Park Service.

To learn more about Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau or make a tax-deductible donation to help fund renovations, visit FriendsOCAC.org.

Acclaimed hip-hop artist to lead community conversation about creativity and risk-taking

The Southern Oregon Guild invites you to join in a community conversation about "What We Risk – Creativity, Vulnerability, and Art" Saturday, May 12 at the Guild Gallery on the RCC Kerby Campus in Kerby.

The interactive conversation will be led by Oregon-based multi-discipline artist and educator, Jason Graham, a slam poetry champion who performs hip hop as MOSley Wotta.

"Do your limits define you? Or do you define your limits?" asked Graham.

The Guild wonders, "Do you share what you create, or do you hide or censor your creative expression?"

"What do we risk when we lay ourselves open through music, painting, or any other art form? What might we give up and what might we gain when we set out to craft something beautiful or provocative or simply expressive that the world did not previously hold?" asked Graham.

He has been featured multiple times as a TEDx speaker and performer. (Google TEDx Jason Graham.) Currently an art ambassador for

Rise Up International Association with the U.S. Department of State, his resume also includes the Sundance Film Festival, Fiji International Jazz & Blues Festival, Women's Muse Conference, MAGIC trade show Las Vegas, Street Con Dubai, Valley Fiesta Australia, and Oregon Art Beat. He has shared stages with the likes of Ice Cube, GhostfaceKillah, Saul Williams, and TalibKweli, among many others. Most recently he worked as a journalist in Nauru for Vice magazine.

This imaginative and accomplished artist will lead a conversation about one of the deep personal challenges in the lives of those who create in any art form – our vulnerability. His presentation is made possible through the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project and sponsored locally by the Southern Oregon Guild.

Join us for snacks and social time between 3 and 4 p.m. The program begins at 4 and runs to about 5:30, Saturday, May 12. The event is free. Donations are welcome.

Pre-registrations are helpful. Call the Gallery at 541-592-5019.

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