

Ars Poetica series at EOU features talented poets

East Oregonian

A pair of award-winning poets will read from their most recent works as part of the Carl and Sandra Ellston Ars Poetica Literary Lecture Series.

The program features 2017 Oregon Book Award winner Joe Wilkins and prize-winning American poet Todd Davis. The free event is Tuesday, Feb. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Pierce Library at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande.

Wilkins' "When We Were

Birds" received the Oregon Book Award in Poetry and the Miller Williams Poetry Prize, selected by Billy Collins. His other books include the memoir "The Mountain and the Fathers: Growing Up in the Big Dry," which received the GLCA New Writers Award, and his debut novel "Fall Back Down When I Die."

Growing up in eastern Montana, Wilkins moved westward to study computer engineering at Gonzaga University in Spokane. A job with Teach For America took him to the Mississippi Delta



Wilkins



Davis

where he taught ninth grade algebra. Later while earning a master's degree in creative writing at the University of Idaho, Wilkins studied with poet Robert Wrigley and memoirist Kim Barnes. He now resides in western Oregon

and heads the creative writing program at Linfield College.

Davis is best known for his full-length collections of poetry, "Winterkill," "In the Kingdom of the Ditch," "The Least of These," "Some Heaven" and "Ripe." In addition, his poetry has been published in numerous journals and magazines.

Awards garnered by Davis include the Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Prize, the Chautauqua Editors Prize and the ForeWord Reviews Book of the Year Bronze Award. Also, he has been nomi-

nated for the Pushcart Prize.

Davis grew up in Indiana and now resides in Tipton, Pennsylvania. He is a professor of environmental studies, creative writing and American literature at Pennsylvania State University's Altoona College.

Books by the authors will be available for purchase and signing after the readings. For more information about the Ars Poetica Literary Lecture Series, contact English professor David Axelrod at 541-962-3633 or daxealrod@eou.edu.

MOVIE REVIEW

A goofy, sweet spin on Arthurian legend

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

The Arthurian legend gets a modern and more youthful spin in "The Kid Who Would Be King," a surprisingly delightful film full of action, heart, a crazy-haired Patrick Stewart (as "old" Merlin) and a few genuinely good gags, and it really couldn't have come at a better time.

It's an Amblin-esque movie about fantasy, geek culture and outcasts that's actually been made for modern kids — not nostalgic adults who crave both the cozy comfort of the things they grew up with, but, like, with way more violence, gore and nudity. "The Kid Who Would Be King" reclaims the fantasy genre for actual kids of today. And it's not even set in the 1980s.

You can thank writer and director Joe Cornish for the restraint (although the score is pretty heavy on the synths). The film is his follow-up to "Attack the Block," the cult sci-fi hit that helped put "Star Wars" John Boyega on the map. Here he introduces audiences to some other young talents to watch, including Louis Ashbourne Serkis, Andy Serkis' son, as the would-be-king, Alex.

Alex is a normal and slightly dorky lower-middle class British schoolkid, living with his mom (Denise Gough). He struggles with



20th Century Fox via AP/Kerry Brown

From left, Rhianna Dorris, Tom Taylor, Dean Chaumoo, and Louis Ashbourne Serkis in a scene from "The Kid Who Would Be King."

"The Kid Who Would Be King"

★★★★☆

132 minutes

truly wonderful Dean Chaumoo), from schoolyard bullies named Lance and Kaye, but he's trying his best.

Then one night, running from Lance (Tom Taylor) and Kaye (Rihanna Dorris), Alex spots a sword in the middle of a construction site and removes it from the stone with ease. He and Bedders plug the inscription into Google translate and try to

keep their imaginations in check when they realize that it might be real, but, both the audience and the boys will fail at this.

"The Kid Who Would Be King" really is quite a sweet and well-told reimagining of this story that's fit for the whole family. And it is refreshing that it's not trying to be too dark or edgy, although it definitely over-

stays its welcome, clocking in at over two hours. But it's a small price to pay for something so enjoyable on its own that might also just get some kids to start reading about Arthur and Lancelot as well.

"The Kid Who Would Be King" is rated PG for "fantasy action violence, scary images, thematic elements including some bullying, and language."

Oldies Night features 'The Voice'

MILTON-FREEWATER — Start spreading the news — Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater tunes up with the songs of Frank Sinatra.

The Rat Pack — Sinatra, along with Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., Peter Lawford and Joey Bishop — ruled the Las Vegas music scene. They performed on stage and in films of the early 1960s, including "Ocean's 11," "Sergeants 3" and "Robin and the 7 Hoods."

Sinatra was one of the most successful and most popular recording artists of the 20th century. His solo career included hit singles throughout the '40s through the '70s. His final song to hit the Billboard Hot 100 chart was "Theme from New York, New York" in 1980.

Oldies Night will salute Sinatra with 50 of his hit songs. The free event is Saturday, Feb. 2 from 7-10 p.m. in the Wesley United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater. In addition to spinning tunes, BJ the DJ will share facts and trivia along the way. Bonus songs will begin at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Bob Jones at dubuquer70@gmail.com, or call 541-938-7028.

WHAT TO DO

FESTIVALS

Eagle Cap Extreme Sled Dog Race

•Jan. 23-26
www.eaglecapextreme.com
•Joseph, Enterprise, Fergi Ski Area

Free, except banquet (\$20/adults, \$8/ages 5-12). People can watch races, which include Iditarod & Yukon Quest qualifiers; meet-and-greet with mushers at vet checks; Race Central and Kids' Corner.

Prestige Wrestling: Tower of Snakes

•Friday, Feb. 22; 7-11 p.m.
www.prestigewrestling.net
•Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 Airport Road, Hermiston
\$15-\$50. Features King Khash, "Filthy" Tom Lawlor, Simon Grimm, DJZ, Sonico, No Lives Matter, Team C4, Mike Santiago, Julian Whyt and more to be announced.

ART, MUSEUMS & AUTHORS

"ArtWORKZ Junior Art Show & Competition"

•Monday - Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Tamástslíkt Cultural Institute, near Wildhorse Resort & Casino.
www.tamastslíkt.org
No entry fee. Youths through age 18 are invited to enter artwork in all mediums by Jan. 30. Show runs through Feb. 9 to March 30. (Randy Melton, 541-429-7720).

"History in Photos from Wallowa County"

•Monday through Saturdays; noon-4 p.m.
•Joseph Center for Arts and Culture, 403 N. Main St., Joseph
www.josephy.org
Free. Highlights historical photos and photographers in Wallowa County. Runs through Feb. 25.
"Parallel Worlds"
•Monday - Thursdays; 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
•Betty Feves Memorial Gallery, BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

Free. Features the work of Shea Wilkinson, who creates art quilts using free motion quilting and hand embroidery. Gallery also open by appointment by calling 541-278-5952. Runs through Feb. 7.

"Form and Figure"
•Monday-Fridays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
•Nightingale Gallery, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande
www.eou.edu/art/nightingale-gallery

Free. Features the work of Florida couple Michael and Aneka Ingold. Runs through Feb. 8.

MUSIC

Cory Wilds
•Saturday, Jan. 26; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Live Music Thursday-Murray Dunlap
•Thursday, Jan. 31; 7-9 p.m.
•40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton
No cover. The La Grande-based band brings rock 'n' roll.

"An Evening With the Classics"
•Thursdays, Jan. 31; 7 p.m.
•Pendleton High School, 1800 N.W. Carden Ave.
www.oregoneastysymphony.org
Free. Features Oregon East Symphony's youth ensembles, A Sharp Players and Preludes Orchestra.

Doug Diamond
•Friday, Feb. 1; 7 p.m.
•Irrigon Seventh-day Adventist Church, 205 Tumblewood Blvd.
Free. Features Irrigon resident who performs gospel folk.

24/7 Band
•Friday, Feb. 1; Saturday, Feb. 2; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater
•Saturday, Feb. 2; 7 p.m.
•Wesley Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.
Free. BJ the DJ spins songs by Frank Sinatra. Come an hour early for bonus songs.

Sharlet Crooks
•Thursday, Feb. 7; 7 p.m.
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover, all ages. One of Portland's newest bands creating a fresh and provocative frontier in modern Americana music. The sound is said to be both hauntingly familiar and effortlessly authentic.

Groove City
•Friday, Feb. 8; Saturday, Feb. 9; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Going to Memphis
•Thursday, Feb. 14; 7 p.m.
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.
www.wildhorsesort.com
\$29-\$39. A "Johnny Cash Experience" featuring Michael Monroe, an original cast member of the "Million Dollar Quartet on Broadway." No-host bar available. Buy tickets online or at the Wildhorse Gift Shop.

Calvin Johnson & His Band
•Friday, Feb. 15; 7 p.m.
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover, all-ages. Founding member of several bands, Johnson's unique voice is said to be deep and droning.

Harmonious Funk
•Friday, Feb. 15 Saturday, Feb. 16; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

NIGHT LIFE
Midnight Rodeo Barn Bash
•Saturday, Jan. 26; 9 p.m.
•The Pheasant Blue Collar Bar & Grill, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
No cover. Cowboy-themed party; come dressed in your best western attire and kick up your heels with DJ Diego tunes. Features contests, prizes, drink specials and more
Karaoke w/DJ David
•Saturdays; 8 p.m.
•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth

St., Umatilla
Saturday Night Trivia
•Saturdays; 9 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
Free. Show what you know for fun and prizes.

Wino Wednesdays
•Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m.
•Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 N. Thiel- sen St., Echo
Karaoke at the Packard
•1st/3rd Wednesday, 9 p.m.-midnight

The Packard Tavern, 118 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton
No cover.

Wine Wednesday
•Wednesday, Feb. 13, 5-7 p.m.
•The Gathering Place at Bellinger's, 1823 S. Highway 395, Hermiston
No cover. Features tasting and music.

Thirsty Thursdays
•Third Thursday; 6 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
No cover. Hosts a local brewery offering tastings and food pairings. Jan. 31:

LOL Comedy Jam
•Thursdays; 8 p.m.
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.
No cover. Jan. 31: Alex Elkin, Ken Hamlett; Feb. 7: Taylor Clark, Chelsea Tolle

Wine tasting
•Fridays, 4-8 p.m.
•Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.
Karaoke w/DJ David
•Fridays; 8 p.m.
•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

DJ and dancing
•Fridays, 8 p.m.
•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Karaoke
•Fridays; 9 p.m.
•Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
Cimmi's Late Night Martini Lounge
•Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight

•Virgil's at Cimmiyotti's, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.

THEATER, STAGE, FILM & LECTURES

Sensory Friendly Movie
•Saturday, Jan. 26; 10:30 a.m.
•Hermiston Stadium 8 Cinema, 355 W. Theater Lane
www.facebook.com/arcoumatillacounty

\$5.50. In conjunction with The Arc Umatilla County, sensory-friendly screenings with lights up a little and volume down. Doors open at 10 a.m. "A Dog's Way Home."

"The Wizard of Oz"
•Feb. 1-2, 8-9, 7 p.m.
•Sunday, Feb. 3; 2 p.m.
•Hermiston High School, 600 S. First St.

\$10/adults, \$8/seniors, \$5/students. Presented by Hermiston High School drama department.
"Speakeasy Murder Mystery"
•Saturday, Feb. 9; 6 p.m.
•Pendleton Underground Tours, 31 S.W. Emigrant Ave.
www.pendletonunderground-tours.org

\$75/21-and-older. Reservations required. Interactive event also features food/beverages catered by Oregon Grain Growers Brand Distillery. (541-276-0730).

HOT TICKETS

•Bob Seger & the Silver Bullet Band. Feb. 2, Moda Center, Portland. Tickets (\$49-\$125+) via www.ticketmaster.com

•The Rolling Stones. No Filter Tour. May 22, CenturyLink Field, Seattle. Tickets (\$94-\$494+) via www.ticketmaster.com

•Jackalope Jamboree. June 29, Happy Canyon Arena, Pendleton. Early bird tickets (\$35-\$55+) via www.brownpapertickets.com

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to community@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.