

# World-class soprano comes to Florence Event Center Friday

Marie-Josée Lord a world-class, Haitian-born Canadian soprano, has performed the key roles in Porgy and Bess and La Bohème to great international acclaim.

She has performed on radio, television and at prestigious venues across North America. Her intense and flamboyant personality, and her international-caliber performance, will fill the theater at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., on Friday, Jan. 23.

"Madame Lord is simply stunning — vocally and visually — with a personality to match," says SEAc coast president Ernie Doud. "Even those for whom opera isn't at the top of the list, Marie-Josée Lord will be.

"Her irresistible charisma and passion for lyrical art have made her an outstanding guest for many TV and radio programs and a headliner for a number of metropolitan opera



Marie-Josée Lord (courtesy photo)

houses across North America," he added.

Marie-Josée Lord began her musical education in Quebec's historic capital upon her arrival from Haiti at age 5. Her adoptive parents, high-school science teachers, had a piano and were delighted to see how

much the instrument intrigued her — and how quickly she learned.

Lord began formal piano lessons at age 7 and continued for nearly 10 years, also learning violin along the way.

After studying piano at the Quebec Conservatory, she began to see her limitations. But during a music workshop for voice, she discovered an art form that was everything she had been looking for.

Lord was encouraged by a friend to take voice lessons. Just for fun, she agreed. As a quick learner with a solid foundation in music, she asked her instructor to push her to work at an advanced level. The results speak for themselves.

Lord began studying voice in 1992 as a mezzo-soprano, and gave her first recital in 1996. Her career progressed rapidly, taking on more advanced instruction and levels of performance. Eventually, the

Montreal Gazette would write, "... A voice of wonderful depth and pliability casting a radiant glow. Her presence is spell-binding ... a very classy singer with a bright future." Awards and record sales followed.

She has performed leading roles in Puccini's Turandot Opera, Suor Angelica, and La Bohème, Chabrier's l'Étoile, Verdi's Falstaff, and in the world premiere of the operatic version of Starmania.

The rest of SEAc coast's season promises an exciting variety of musical styles and culture: Friday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., Metales M5; Sunday, March 15, 2 p.m., The Voetberg Family Band; Friday, April 17, 7 p.m., Quartetto Gelato; and Friday, May 15, 7 p.m., Eugene Symphony.

Tickets for each show are \$30 per adult and \$10 for those under 18, and are available online at SEAc coastEA.org, at the FEC box office, or by

phone at 541-997-1994.

Artist profiles, video clips, and more information on all of SEAc coast's shows are available at SeacoastEA.org.

SEAc coast Entertainment Association is the largest provider of talent, event funding and diversity of entertainment to the FEC.

The all-volunteer group is dedicated to advancing the arts

and bringing great music, dance, comedy and variety entertainment to Florence.

In more than 30 years the group has produced several hundred concerts and is proud to support the arts in Florence.

SEAc coast Entertainment Association is a 501c3 nonprofit. Contributions in support of their work are tax-deductible.

## LCC offering new community-education classes

LCC is offering many new community education classes this term designed to suit a variety of interests.

Create-A-Cake begins Tuesday, Jan. 20, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., and runs six weeks. Learn to decorate from a pro (no baking) and create specialized cakes using torting, filling, icing, buttercream finish, as well as basic frosting borders and fondant decorations.

The materials fee includes yours-to-keep tools.

For more information, call Lane Community College at

541-997-8444 or stop by the college at 3149 Oak St., or go to [www.lanecc.edu/florence](http://www.lanecc.edu/florence).

Other great new offers are Film Appreciation, beginning Tuesday, Feb. 10, from 1 to 3 p.m., for those interested in the classics, comedies, and westerns.

On Monday, Feb. 2, from

5:30 to 7 p.m., join Designing your own Flax Fiber Art, a four-part course starting at the artist's studio to give beginning and intermediate students an opportunity to explore ideas for their own work.

In March, How Does Your Garden Grow will help gardeners get the most from their

favorite sanctuaries.

Check out these classes and all the community education courses through LCC Florence.

Noncredit continuing education classes are a lower cost, sometimes free way to meet people who share similar interests.

## Dunes City seeks volunteers

DUNES CITY — Dunes City is looking for volunteers to serve on several key Dunes City Committees.

There are many opportunities available, including:

- Budget committee
- Communication and education committee
- Ordinance review committee
- Parks and recreation committee
- Water quality committee
- Road commission
- Planning commission

Volunteers are vital to the health and welfare of the Dunes City community, providing knowledge, advice and, often, physical labor to help the city meet the needs of its residents.

Anyone who has a little time to give, wants to learn more about Dunes City and is interested in helping out, is invited to apply for any of the vacant positions. Simply complete an Application for Appointive Office form available at Dunes City Hall or on the city's website at [www.dunescity.com/city-permits-and-information](http://www.dunescity.com/city-permits-and-information).

Applications may be delivered to Dunes City Hall, 82877 Spruce St. in Westlake, or mailed to P.O. Box 97, Westlake OR, 97493, or emailed to [recorder@dunescityor.com](mailto:recorder@dunescityor.com).

For details about the duties and responsibilities of these bodies, residency requirements, term lengths, or other questions, visit [www.dunescity.com/city-directory](http://www.dunescity.com/city-directory) or call Dunes City Hall at 541-997-3338.

There is no cutoff date for submitting applications, but applications could be considered at the Dunes City Council meeting following the submission of your application.

Applicants will be notified of the date the City Council will consider applications and should plan on attending that meeting.

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