

# South Coast Folk Society hosts country, contra dancing

COOS BAY — English Country Dancing and Contra Dancing are coming to Coos Bay on Saturday, Jan. 2.

Start the new year with a bounce in your step at these two public events sponsored by the South Coast Folk Society. It's all happening at the Harding Learning Center, 755 S. Seventh St. in Coos Bay.

At 4 p.m., there will be two hours of English Country Dancing, "Downton Abbey" style. Period costumes are wel-

come but not required — nor is experience.

Brooke Friendly will teach and call all dances from England and the Outstanding Open Band will provide live music. Dancers of all ages and skill levels are welcome.

Admission is by donation, with a potluck meal to follow.

Contra Dancing begins at 7 p.m. with a full lesson by Friendly and more music by

the Outstanding Open Band. Contra dancing is a light-hearted form of social dancing that is easy to learn, and lots of fun for the whole family.

The Outstanding Open Band is a group of talented local musicians who volunteer their time to practice and play music.

First-timers who show up for Friendly's lesson will receive a ticket for free admission to their next dance. Both venues offer a full evening of social dancing to great

live music.

These events are alcohol and fragrance free.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. Admission is \$7 for general, \$6 for students w/ID and seniors over age, or \$5 for members. Supervised children under age 6 are admitted free.

For more information, call Paul at 541-572-5370 or visit [www.southcoastfolksociety.wordpress.com](http://www.southcoastfolksociety.wordpress.com).

# Fifth-grade students' Cigar Box Guitars on display at museum

COOS BAY — Cigar Box Guitars will be featured as part of "Musical Instruments @ CAM," an exhibition of instruments and instrument building, being held at Coos Art Museum through Feb. 13, 2016.

The Cigar Box Guitars represent a sampling of the 130 guitars built by the 2014-2015 fifth-grade class at Sunset Middle School.

The guitars, part of the museum's Studio-to-School program, were built

over the course of three months under the direction of Sunset teacher Nick Krissie, who won a STEM Champion Award for his work on this project.

Studio-to-School is funded by a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation and represents a partnership which includes Sunset School and Coos Art Museum.

Many other community members and businesses donated materials or volunteered time to this project.

During the construction of the guitars the students developed skills in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Students also learned about the rich history of this instrument in American music.

At the culmination of this project, students had the opportunity to work with international cigar box guitar expert Justin Johnson, who spent a week with the students and taught them basic music theory, rhythm and 12-bar blues.

The students also had the opportunity to perform in concert with Justin at the Egyptian Theatre in May.

The museum offers a wide range of arts activities including exhibitions, art classes and lectures.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Museum admission is \$5 general, \$2 for students, veterans and seniors, and free to museum members.

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