

Community News

Heard to teach dance classes at LCC

FLORENCE — If you are the proud parent of a young dancer, then there's great news. Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshop (VROW) artistic director Melanie Heard will once again be offering youth dance classes this spring, April 21 through June 9, at Lane Community College, Florence Campus.

"Creative Movement" will be held Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon, and is for ages 2 1/2 to 5.

Children will explore rhythm, musical genres, floor patterns, animal movements, levels and tempo, as well as learn the basic arm and foot positions and some basic steps from ballet.

This class is focused on imagination and fun.

Participants must be potty trained unless parent/guardian is willing to stay and assist.

"Jazz/Lyrical" is for ages 6 and older, and will be held Thursdays, from 3:30 to 4:20 p.m. Students will participate in warm-ups and isolation body exercises set to contemporary music, followed by a variety of



COURTESY PHOTO

Melanie Heard

p.m. Students will participate in warm-ups and isolation body exercises, followed by complicated and creative musical theatre choreography from a variety of styles and Broadway shows.

For all classes, proper dance attire and jazz or ballet shoes are required.

Heard has been teaching kids how to dance for more than 20 years. She studied professional ballet with the Houston, Joffrey and Kirov Ballet Schools, and is well versed in tap, jazz, character, swing, salsa, lyrical/modern, and many other forms of dance.

"Dance is a great way for young men and ladies of all ages to learn about their bodies and to expand their creativity," says Heard, who stresses that she is purposely offering classes for various ages, including teens that might be interested.

She also particularly encourages young men and boys to sign up.

"Dance is an incredibly ath-

letic activity" says Heard. "It's not just for girls. Some of the most amazing athletes, including many professional football players, have studied dance to improve their stamina and agility."

The classes will be custom tailored to the ages and abilities of the kids who sign up.

"Come give it a try. You might surprise yourself," says Heard.

Class sessions are \$56, which breaks down to only \$7 per class. Limited financial need based scholarships may be available, through a partnership with Siuslaw School District's Twilight Program (for Jazz/Lyrical and Dance For Musical Theatre classes only).

Ask for information.

For more information, or to enroll your child, contact Melanie Heard at 541-999-8641 or visit www.crowtheatrekids@yahoo.com. You can also visit www.crowkids.com for a downloadable application.

Space is limited, and pre-enrollment is strongly recommended.

Cavy enthusiasts to gather March 19 at FEC

What's the difference between a cavy and a Guinea pig? Find out March 19, when the Florence Events Center will be alive with the happy squeal of Cavies and their enthusiasts during the Oregon Cavy Breeders Society's winter Cavy Show.



COURTESY PHOTO

Come see a variety of cavies at this year's Oregon Cavy Breeders Society event at the Florence Events Center.

Local owners and breeders will be bringing their favorite cavies to be judged and assessed for their quality. Top winners will be awarded prizes.

In addition there will be a youth cavy show open to the public.

"Our youth have some beautiful examples of cavies," said Manetta Deggleman, organizer of last August's summer show at the FEC. "Everyone is invited to see why we love our animals, and why we have so much fun."

Though there are 13 breeds of Guinea pig, only a few breeds are commonly found off the show table as pets.

The short-hair, Abyssinian, Peruvian and Sheltie (aka Silkie) breeds are those most frequently seen as pets.

"We welcome questions about our little friends at this show or any of our many shows around the state," said Deggleman.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Deuter artwork featured at Oregon Pacific Bank

Oregon Pacific Bank is featuring the artwork of nationally recognized artist Cat Deuter during the month of March.

Born in Southern California, both of Deuter's parents were artistic. Deuter began sketching at a very young age. A move to Rapid City, S.D., brought her in touch with local and distant Pow Wows, Native American gatherings, ranching events, rodeos and state fairs. She was able to photograph



"At the Fair" by Cat Deuter

and portray these experiences in her art. After 10 years working in black and white, she discovered colored pencils and oils, and later pastels. She also

began doing wildlife portraits, focusing mainly on buffalo.

Deuter is mostly self-taught, using her photographs as reference material. Her work hangs in the permanent collections of the Center for Western Studies at Augusta College in Sioux Falls, S.D., and with the South Dakota State Board Collection.

She has won many awards, and has been recognized by art magazines and galleries, including a profile article pub-

lished in the Art of the West magazine. Open edition prints of her work are available through Fine Art America, an online gallery.

Deuter now resides in Florence, and original works can be viewed in the Florence Regional Arts Alliance's Gallery, 121 Maple St., where she is a member.

"My work is my joy, and it's brought me the freedom to live in and among nature, presenting a facet of the natural world that I observe in a beautiful and unique way," said Deuter.

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