

# Youth can audition for 'Addams Family' Jan. 9-10

"The Addams Family," based on the characters created by Charles Addams, features an original story — and it's every father's nightmare.

Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family. He also happens to be a man her parents have never met.

And if that weren't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before: keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia.

Everything will change for the Addams' on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

Part romance and part twisted comedy, "The Addams Family" is a dark, spooky and fun show for the whole family.

CROW (Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops) will be hosting open auditions Jan. 9 and 10.

This marks CROW's sixth mainstage production. The show will be performed April 21 through 23 at the Florence Events Center, and for invited school audiences on April 20.

Local audiences may recall that last spring, CROW produced a main stage production of "Shrek The Musical, Jr." which dazzled and delighted local audiences.



**CROW will hold auditions for its spring production of "The Addams Family" musical in January.**

CROW is a Florence-based nonprofit organization dedicated to giving back to the community by providing quality performing arts experiences to local youth.

Artistic Director Melanie Heard is a credentialed teacher, and founded the program.

"It's much more than just theater. It's an opportunity to hone crucial life skills such as teamwork, motivation, dedication and self-esteem," said Heard. "We hope that these things will serve our kids well, no matter what life path they may select."

In addition to providing a professional work environment for the cast members, CROW utilizes the highest caliber cos-

tumes, sets, lighting design, choreography, music, sound, stage makeup and much more.

There are roles for ages 6 to 22 and older, and all young people are encouraged to try out regardless of previous stage experience.

Mature 4 to 6 years olds will be considered for "Telegrammers," which is a reduced commitment.

Auditions will be held at CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101, on Jan. 9 and 10, at 6:30 p.m.

Invited callbacks will be held on Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m.

There are approximately 40-45 onstage

roles, and several behind-the-scenes jobs for kids interested in technical theatre.

To audition or participate backstage, kids must attend the audition. Parents should also attend to help fill out forms. Onstage performer hopefuls will need to bring 16 to 32 bars from a song that they would like to sing (sheet music or a CD, MP3 track with no background voices is also acceptable), and a headshot/resume if they have one.

Prospective cast members will also be taught a short dance combination, and those asked to come to callbacks will read sides from the script.

No experience is required, so don't be afraid to come and give it a try. Interested families are strongly encouraged to visit the CROW website any information needed to prepare for the audition.

Rehearsals will begin Jan. 23 and are generally held weeknights from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m.

A schedule will be available for perusal at the audition.

Heard stresses that performing in these productions is a big commitment.

"Performing in one of our shows is very hard work and requires dedication, but when the curtain opens in April, we know everyone will agree that it was worth it," said Heard.

For a casting breakdown, FAQs and detailed audition information, visit [www.crowkids.com](http://www.crowkids.com). Contact Heard at 541-999-8641 or by email at



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## 'Love of Animals' takes over FEC

During the months of January and February, the Florence Events Center (FEC) is showing the results of the "Rent-a-Rod" opportunity for local artists. The show celebrates animals and benefits the Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) in Florence.

For this third annual exhibit of "For the Love of Animals," artists purchase one or more rods, with each rod hold up to three pieces of art including paintings, photography, mixed media and more.

This is a great opportunity for artists to showcase and sell their art, as well as support the local animal shelter. Domestic animals, wildlife, sea life, birds — all animal art is welcome.

Interspersed with the artwork will be actual photos of animals up for adoption at the OCHS.

**Florence artist Ron Hildenbrand will paint a portrait of the January raffle winner's pet, such as shown in this completed oil painting.**

Artwork will be viewed by many visitors to the FEC, including at a special reception Saturday, Jan. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This special day will feature refreshments, photos taken of people's pets in a special Valentine's Day booth, and a raffle to win an original oil painting of your pet by well-known local artist Ron Hildenbrand.

A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to the OCHS.

Admission to the reception is free, but guests are encouraged to bring a bag of pet food for the OCHS.

FEC's galleries will also be open during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour, and during normal operating hours.

For more information, come to the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., call 541-997-1994 during regular business hours or visit online at [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org).