



**Eugene Ballet COMPANY**  
TONI PIMBLE | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**Thursday, Feb 2 | 7:00 pm**  
**Florence Events Center**

Shakespeare's tale of topsy-turvy love with Toni Pimble's lush choreography  
*Wandering On*, award-winning choreographer Stephanie Martinez's new commissioned ballet  
*The Surrounding Third*, Suzanne Haag's new work set to Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings*

eventcenter.org | 541-997-1994 | Events Center Box Office

Stephanie Martinez's ballet is supported by Hult Endowment Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation

## RAIN to hold Speed Pitch Competition

Newly-appointed coastal venture catalyst David Youngtob, of the Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN), has wasted no time raising the bar for Florence entrepreneurs. On Tuesday, Jan. 24, he will host the Startup Speed Pitch Kickoff, where he will also announce details on the inaugural RAIN Coastal Pre-accelerator program.

"This is an exciting opportunity for local innovators to jump start their business venture. We're presenting a short-term challenge in the speed pitch competition, but our real hope is that everyone leaves inspired to move their idea forward by applying to our pre-accelerator program," said Youngtob.

The kickoff event will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Kenneth B. Gallery, 1458 First St.

The event is free to attend, and light food and beverage will be provided.

Attendees will have time to network with fellow innovators and will vote for the winner of the speed pitch competition — which comes with a \$500 prize package.

For more information, including registration, visit [bit.ly/FloCoKickoff](http://bit.ly/FloCoKickoff).

The speed pitch portion of program is open to anyone with an idea to start a business in Florence, plans to sell nationally or internationally and create jobs.

Each company will have one minute to pitch its idea.

Companies that would like to pitch can email Youngtob at [david@oregonrain.org](mailto:david@oregonrain.org) with the subject line "Speed Pitch."

Youngtob said of the companies that have already signed-up to pitch, some have products already being sold in markets, while others are merely in the idea stage.

Companies do not need to pitch to be considered for the pre-accelerator, but the event doubles as an opportunity for entrepreneurs to receive feedback that may strengthen their application to the pre-accelerator.

The pre-accelerator is a 12-week, bootcamp-style program for the best and brightest startup companies in Coastal Lane County.

The application process opens Saturday, Feb. 4, at

[bit.ly/FloCoPreaccelerator](http://bit.ly/FloCoPreaccelerator) and closes on Feb. 27.

Four to six companies will be selected for the program, which begins on March 15.

RAIN began hosting educational and networking events for entrepreneurs on the Oregon Coast in October, 2015. However, this is the first multi-week program designed to take an early stage startups from concept stage to launch stage.

"The introduction of the pre-accelerator program is a testament to the entrepreneurs in Florence. From the very beginning, they've bought into everything that RAIN has offered. And we know that they are ready to take the next step," said RAIN Venture Catalyst Caroline Cummings.

In coordination with the Cities of Corvallis and Eugene, as well as communities throughout the region, RAIN is partnered with two accelerators to create a collaborative environment to assist entrepreneurs in establishing viable companies that generate jobs, wealth and opportunities for the region.

For more information about RAIN, visit [oregonrain.org](http://oregonrain.org).

## Tale Spinners to host wellness panel Jan.28

On Saturday, Jan. 28, the Siuslaw Tale Spinners Toastmasters club will host a special wellness panel from 10 a.m. to noon in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library.

Topics for discussion will include:

- Palliative Care with Donna Becker, who has a masters degree in social work
- Acupuncture with Patricia Immel, licensed acupuncturist
- Yoga with Bill Fleenor, registered Yoga teacher-500
- Nutrition with Laurie Stone, certified holistic

nutritionist

- Fitness with Tracy Markley, biomechanics fitness specialist.

This event is open and free to the public.

According to the National Wellness Institute (NWI), "Although there are many different views on what wellness encompasses, we will be working with the current general agreement that:

- Wellness is a conscious, self-directed and evolving process of achieving full potential
- Wellness is multidimensional and holistic, encompassing lifestyle, mental and

spiritual well-being, and the environment

- Wellness is positive and affirming

The definition of wellness, long used by the NWI is consistent with these tenets. Wellness is an active process through which people become aware of, and make choices toward, a more successful existence."

Come for a spirited and insightful conversation as to what wellness may mean to you, your family and community.

For more information, contact Irma Geller at 541-999-0912.

**DEADLINE FOR PRESS RELEASES IS EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY BY NOON. EMAIL [PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM](mailto:PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM).**

## City Grant Program accepting applications

The City Council Grant Program will be accepting applications through Feb. 24, at 5 p.m.

Applicants can apply for up

to \$1,000, and the program will be awarding a total of \$5,000 for FY 2016-17.

Applicant funding requests need to relate to at least one of the City Council Goals.

In order for an application to be eligible, it must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Organization is a recognized nonprofit organization or affiliate of such an organization and,
- Organization is located within the City of Florence or serving City of Florence residents and,

- Provides assistance for essential utilities, food, clothing, or shelter; or
- Provides educational or recreational opportunities for children or seniors; or
- Generates/supports economic activity in Florence.

Applications, eligibility information and submission instructions are available on the City of Florence's website at [www.ci.florence.or.us](http://www.ci.florence.or.us).

For information, contact the City of Florence at 541-997-3437.

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**Saturday, February 11th 6:30 PM**  
**Three Rivers Casino Showroom**  
\$22 pp/\$40 couple if purchased in advance  
\$25 pp/\$45 couple at door (if available)  
**Tix: [www.crowkids.com](http://www.crowkids.com) or (866) 967-8167**  
DBD is a fundraiser for C.R.O.W. - nonprofit youth theatre  
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