

## FESTIVAL

# Celebrate art, wine and jazz at Florence Fest debut

Seven jazz acts, including rapidly-rising international star Halie Loren, will complement 12 wineries of regional and global renown, and an invitational juried art show, to lure aficionados of discerning tastes to Florence for FlorenceFest '17.

The two-day event takes place at the 21,000-square-foot Florence Events Center from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 31, and noon to 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 1.

Pre-event tickets are \$20 online and available at [www.florencechamber.com](http://www.florencechamber.com), or \$25 at the door.

Admission is restricted to adults age 21 and over.

"We're excited to launch this event in Florence for the wine, art and jazz aficionados throughout Oregon," says



organizer Jon Thompson. "The quality of the wine, art, food and music is critical to the overall success of the event and will appeal to a discerning audience. We know attendees will be delighted."

Wineries from the Columbia Gorge to the Rogue Valley will offer free tastings as part of the admission price.

Wineries include Gelardi Vineyard/Poco Collina,

Hanson Vineyards, Benton — Lane Winery, Panache Cellars, Youngberg Hill, Iris Vineyards, Rivers Edge, Season Cellars, Cathedral Ridge, Naked Winery, Sineann and J Scott Cellars. Wineries will sell their product by the glass or bottle.

On Friday, The Michael Anderson Jazz Trio and Michelle and Dave Van Handel, will precede headlin-

er Toni Glausi and his 9-piece Funk Band.

On Saturday, headliner Halie Loren and her quintet will take the stage after performances by The Paul Biondi and Gus Russell Quartet, The Miles To Go Quartet and Don Latarski and D'Trio.

The juried art show and sale, conducted by Robert Canaga — artist, appraiser and gallery owner/curator — will include 60-plus finalists out of more than 100 entries from Seattle to Bandon, including many Lane County locals. Prizes range up to \$1000. The event is coordinated by the Florence Regional Arts Alliance.

Thompson says that throughout the two days, a tapas-style menu will be available from a variety of

providers.

"Florence is so centrally located on the coast, and springtime is amazing here," adds Thompson, owner of Coast Radio KCST/KCFM in Florence, which is producing FlorenceFest '17.

"Florence bills itself as 'Oregon's coastal playground,' and this event at this venue is a great part of all the fun Florence has to offer.

We want to fill the town with people who appreciate fine art, fine wine, and international caliber jazz," Thompson said.

For more information, visit [www.FlorenceFestOregon.com](http://www.FlorenceFestOregon.com) or call Coast Radio at 541-997-9136 or the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce at 541-997-3128.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Friends of the Florence Events Center has a long-standing history of volunteerism.

Without the thousands of hours given each year by a team of committed volunteers, the Florence Events Center would not function.

A current call for new volunteers is going out for all aspects of altruism at the event center.

Opportunities for volunteers include: ushering, taking tickets, working backstage, helping with room set-up, art gallery set-up, office support and

fundraising for the Friends of the F.E.C.

Being a volunteer requires a minimal training orientation to find out what the interest of the volunteer might be.

The average number of hours a volunteer may donate range from 2 to 20 per month.

For more information on volunteering at Florence's arts and entertainment focal point, call Sandi Anderson, FEC office and volunteer coordinator, at 541-997-1994 or drop by the office at 715 Quince St., Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## MOON

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Directed by Paula Lindekugel-Willis with Leah

Goodwin as assistant director, LRP's strong ensemble cast features eight actors in comedic roles.

The local all-star cast has appeared in several local theater productions and will bring this uproariously funny comedy

to life in a way that will leave audiences laughing long after the lights go out.

For more information, go to

[www.lastresortplayers.org](http://www.lastresortplayers.org). To purchase tickets, visit the FEC, call 541-997-1994 or visit [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org).

## HOME

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ecologically friendly."

Mark Seery of Mark and Company will have a display of affordable and energy reducing windows inside, but outside will be what he likes to call "garden art".

Seery and his crew began assembling wood and glass greenhouses from old windows they were taking out of homes and businesses. The greenhouses are functional, but also extremely attractive.

Alongside the tiny home and the greenhouse, there is a wide selection of Kubota tractors from Mid Valley Tractor.

Once people move indoors at this year's show, they will see many familiar exhibits, including a centerpiece display created by Laurel Bay Gardens.

"Laurel Bay has been with us for every show," said Thompson. "This year they are back again and, in keeping

with the theme of doing something a little different, they'll be talking about how to create tiny gardens and fairy gardens."

Fairy gardens can be any size and feature small features that are intended to attract fairies. A tiny "Tinkerbell" size bench, or even a miniature arbor, will make fairies feel comfortable in any size garden.

For those short on space, Laurel Bay can help create a tiny garden to fit any home. Laurel Bay staff will be presenting seminars on both tiny and fairy gardens during the weekend. Any one can learn how to create their own.

There will be lots of things on display to help people improve their homes and gardens, but there will also be some tasty things as well. Noti's Winter Green Farm will have a display of their organic goodies, Bandon's Face Rock Creamery will have samples and Kitchen Kraft will be offering classes on low-fat, but very tasty cooking.

The Florence Home and Garden



THE ANNUAL HOME AND GARDEN SHOW OFFERS TIPS, SUGGESTIONS AND FREE SAMPLES TO HELP PREPARE YOUR OWN HOME AND GARDEN FOR SPRING.

Show is presented by the Siuslaw News and Coast Broadcasting, KCST and KCFM. It is sponsored by Bi-Mart and Three Rivers Casino Resort.

It will run three days in March,

Friday, March 3, to Sunday, March 5, at the Florence Events Center.

Tickets are \$2, or free admission on Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.

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