

2017 HOLLY JOLLY FOLLIES



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It's that time again for the Holly Jolly Follies! This year the stage will sparkle with "Totally Twisted Tinsel."

Each year, happy local folks head to the Florence Events Center the first week of December for the community event, "The Holly Jolly Follies." This year's Follies, subtitled "Totally Twisted Tinsel: The True Meaning of Christmas," will be produced December 1st, 2nd, and 3rd by local non-profit, Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (C.R.O.W.).

C.R.O.W. Artistic Director, Melanie Heard is honored to once again be at the helm. Rose Ellen Jacobson has penned a quirky plot, involving many creative and clever characters, guaranteed to get you into the holiday spirit.

This year, the theme revolves around friendship, patience, understanding, and the true meaning of the holiday season. But of course, these important concepts are not always easily attained. The leading characters of "Amarillo Snowden," an aging Ballroom dance champion, and "Dolly Dinkle," an opinionated, bossy dance studio owner, get their tinsel in a twist, and must learn a comedic lesson in how to "get along."

This hilarious plot is accompanied by beautiful vocals, funny little skits and scenes, ensemble numbers, and the debut of C.R.O.W.'s new "Flight Dance Team," which will present two

stunning pieces of choreography.

Local groups and individuals bring a myriad of ideas and offerings to C.R.O.W. each year, and it can be a bit challenging to piece the puzzle together. But C.R.O.W. is honored to produce their second year of the Follies, which has become a Florence tradition throughout the years. "There are many challenges in day-to-day life for the average person," says Heard. "It's my hope that the Follies can make you forget your troubles and come along for a light-hearted, warm and fuzzy sleigh ride with us. We promise we'll make you smile."

Showtimes are Friday and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. All proceeds from the Follies support youth scholarships and the ongoing arts programming that C.R.O.W. provides to local kids. For additional details about C.R.O.W. and the Follies please visit www.crowkids.com.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and younger. "The 2017 Holly Jolly Follies," are available on the Florence Events Center website at www.eventcenter.org, or by calling the box office at 541-997-1994.



WINTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The buzz is out there: This January's 16th Annual Winter Music Festival will feature headliner AL STEWART (yes, "The Year of the Cat" Al Stewart!). The January 12-14th Festival, organized by The Friends of the FEC with the presenting sponsor Sea Lion Caves, features performers and groups worth the price of admission.

Tickets for Saturday night's "The Main Event," sponsored by Brandborg Winery are already selling briskly. Opening for Stewart that evening is troubadour and storyteller, John Craigie.

The "Friday Night Throwdown," sponsored by The Grocery Outlet, showcases Grammy winning Bluegrass Icon Laurie Lewis & The Right Hands and the blistering Americana banjo artistry of Jeff Scroggins & Colorado.

Fans will want to arrive early Saturday as the Oregonfast.Net-sponsored "SuperSession 16" begins at 10:30 a.m. Several groups are returning by popular demand for this general admission event: Pretty Gritty, Cabin Fever NW, Calaveras, and the high energy fiddlin' of Castletown. Petunia & the Vipers ("The Canadian Hank Williams/Woody Guthrie/Tom Waits/Elvis Presley") will round out the afternoon.

The Gospel Gumbo Gathering on Sunday sponsored by The Waterfront Depot will feature Billy Jones, Marty Adams, and local choir members in a Gospel Singalong; followed by the PNW's number one a cappella group, On the Rocks. The popular FRAA Artisan Fair, Ladies of the Elks pie sale, food and drink offerings (Pavilion Catering, Ninkasi Brewery,



Brandborg Winery, and others), plus the awesome late night jam sessions and amazing interactions will round out the successful weekend.

The foundation of the festival remains the two Kids Concerts, provided at no cost to more than 900 area schoolchildren from Mapleton, Reedsport, and

Siuslaw schools.

Buy tickets in person during business hours at the Florence Events Center from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 541-997-1994 or online at www.wintermusicfestival.org. Check out the website for performer descriptions and FAQs, and Like them on Facebook.

The Gift of Life



Blood donations will be accepted at the Florence Events Center on Monday, December 11th from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. by the Lane County Blood Center.

Contact the L.B.C. at 541-484-9112 or visit their website at www.lanebloodcenter.org/ for more information or an appointment.

Holiday Gift Certificates

Give a unique, inspirational gift this year! Gift certificates from the Florence Events Center are the perfect gift idea for that special person who enjoys the performing arts.

Gift certificates can be purchased anytime of the year as a gift idea for any occasion, but the holidays make them an especially perfect gift.

With so many affordable events during the year, there are bound to be several live performances that are appealing to a wide range audience.

New to the FEC this year are the gift tickets that replace the old paper gift certificates. This makes them easier to use at the box office and for purchases on-line.

Another new feature is the gift cards are also available on the web-site www.eventcenter.org to make your home purchasing options easier. Or come by the box office to purchase the gift that comes in every size. Starting at \$20 - gift certificates can be purchased in the amount of your choice.



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