

## QUATTROSOUND OPENS ACT 2 OF SEA CONCERTS

On Wednesday, Jan. 17, Act 2 of the SEA Coastal Concert Series kicks off with the return of Quattrosound, the fusion jazz ensemble that won over Florence audiences a few years ago and has been brought back by popular demand. There will be a 6:15 p.m. pre-concert talk in advance of the 7 p.m. concert.

Quattrosound is defined by its blend of classical, latin pop and jazz, creating a sound all its very own. Its four musicians combine violin, cello, guitars and percussion with lead vocals and four-part harmonies filling the stage with vibrant sound.

"Quattrosound was such a hit when they were last here," said Karen Smales, vice president of SEACOAST and producer of the January concert. "So many people asked us to bring them back, so we went to work to make that happen for 2018."

"They radiate such high energy, good humor and fun from the stage with their playful arrangements that our audience



COURTESY PHOTO

**The fusion jazz ensemble Quattrosound comes to Florence again for Act 2 of the SEA Coastal Concert series.**

really related."

Best described as an innovative acoustic ensemble that blurs and blends the boundaries of multiple musical genres, Quattrosound defies categorization.

Members are as equally adept at playing a composition by Bach as they are at rocking out to Led Zeppelin or covering "Spain" by Chick Corea. Hailing from Japan, Mexico,

Guatemala and the United States, their music selections are as diverse as their nationalities.

Individually, these four accomplished Los Angeles based musicians have performed with Natalie Cole, Madonna, Yo Yo, Elvis Costello, Charlie Daniels, Kristin Chenoweth, Miley Cyrus, Kenny Loggins, Ma Baby Face and David Foster.

Together, Quattrosound delivers clever compositions and arrangements that "pay homage to the classics" while forging a new contemporary sound.

Tickets are on sale now at the Florence Events Center Box Office, 715 Quince St., or the SEACOAST Entertainment website [www.seacoastea.org](http://www.seacoastea.org).

Tickets are \$32 for adults or \$10 for students under 18.

SEACOAST Entertainment Association is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit which has been bringing entertainment to the Oregon Coast since 1980.

## Development from 6A

From April to September, the Housing and Economic Opportunities Project (HEOP) and Planning Director Wendy FarleyCampbell sought to provide "hope for housing" with a survey and several community meetings. HEOP's survey is the first survey on housing that Florence has undertaken since 2002.

"Rent is too high, and home payments are too high," she said. "When people cannot afford to live where they work, the entire community suffers."

Local governments, including Lane County and Florence, are taking steps to address the rural housing crisis, as are community organizations.

"The city did this study to hopefully effect some code changes and policy implementation to make housing affordable to build, rent and develop," FarleyCampbell said. "It's going to help business owners bring and retain employees because they would have a place to rent that is safe, clean and healthy, and have more options to buy."

In October, Florence City Council heard updates from

RAIN and other economic development successes. At that time, Reynolds detailed progress in the Pacific View Business Park and more connections with partner agencies.

"Economic development is multi-faceted. It takes many partners," she said. "I'm happy to say you end up creating good, lifelong connections with people that will bear fruit down the line. It's really exciting to be a part of it."

Also in 2017, Central Lincoln PUD completed its \$6 million Florence-area Electric System Upgrade; LCC Florence Center selected Russ Pierson as dean; FURA passed its own biannual budget; Florence Area Chamber of Commerce got a new president in Bobby Jensen; Siuslaw Broadband, doing business as Hyak, began installing a fiber optic network in and around the Pacific View Business Park; Florence Public Art Committee began installing public art in Gallagher's Park; Friends of the Florence Events Center received a Cultural Development Capacity Grant totaling \$30,800 for theater lighting and sound equipment upgrades; Florence Public Works moved into its new location and more development

happened with ongoing projects.

In looking over the past three years, Reynolds said, "We as a city are certainly not a 'be all, end all.' While we may be seen as an obstacle or a resource to people, we can't solve all problems. We certainly can't do it on our own. We may have been able to get out of the way and help some of our businesses, but they still run into other challenges. Working alongside them and finding out what those challenges are, we can connect them to Lane Workforce Partnership, LCC or whatever that next resource is."

She said that Henry and Florence City Council led Florence's charge in going out and getting stuff done, both in regard to partnerships and economic development.

"Every member of our team, all the way from the bottom of the administration to the top, is out there planting seeds," she said. "Maintaining, watering, fertilizing, trimming, picking, weeding, all those things. We're also checking if we're doing too much or need to pare back. We evaluate all those things. By becoming 'A City in Motion,' we're trying to fulfill our own prophecy. We want to be show-

ing action and planning."

Henry said that the past years have led to "awesome relationships" with state, county and other partners, as well as more public notice of Florence as a city.

One group leading that is the chamber's Downtown Revitalization Team, which drew national attention by applying for the third season of Deluxe Corporation's "Small Business Revolution — Main Street" TV series. Florence is now in the top 10 potential cities.

Reynolds said, "It's all about community members buying in and believing in this community, and championing that effort. For us to come alongside and support that means we might get \$500,000, which will be money invested into this community, to local contractors, businesses and banks."

Henry said, "It's been my experience that when you're not doing very much, not very much happens. When you begin to do a lot of things, then a lot of other things increase exponentially."

"You'll be very pleased with some of the things you'll see in the next 90 days."

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12:30PM • 6:30PM

TICKETS ARE FREE\*

Admission tickets are required and available starting December 11th at:

- Siuslaw News 148 Maple St.
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Representatives will be available for a Q&A after each showing.

\*Only 230 tickets available, first come, first served, Limit 2 per person.

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