

# Mandy Harvey fills FEC with 'good vibrations'

## 'Mandy Harvey' Review

BY DORA CANDELA  
AS TOLD BY  
BURNEY GARELICK

An invisible disability is no barrier to success in one's chosen career, as vocalist Mandy Harvey demonstrated on Feb. 21 at the Florence Events Center.

It was the fourth concert in the 2017-18 Seacoast Entertainment Association season series, and according to reports it was a real lollapalooza including a jam-packed pre-concert talk and a full house.

Unforeseen circumstances prevented yours truly (Burney Garelick) from attending the concert, but my good friend and longtime patron of the arts Dona Candela was present and described the event with verbal accolades which I have attempted to put into writing.

Beethoven is no longer the poster child for deaf musicians. He has been supplanted by Mandy Harvey. At age 18 in 2006-07, Harvey, a music major at Colorado State University, lost her hearing due to a connective tissue disorder.

While that would seem to end anyone's career aspirations, Harvey was resilient and in 2008 returned to music, performing regularly, releasing three albums and playing ven-

ues, TV and radio through the United States and Canada, including "America's Got Talent" in 2017.

Harvey sings and plays ukulele and piano and is a prolific songwriter. She delivers elegant interpretations from the Great American Songbook, as well as delicious arrangements of pop rock and folk songs.

Of course it wasn't easy. When your instrument is broken, you have to start all over. Harvey had to relearn to speak, as well as to sing. She had to learn to use her voice to convey intent in order to know she was communicating as she wished.

It was not enough to hear the music in her head, so her other senses pulled together to move her beyond the barrier fate had thrown in her path. Visual cues became her right hand, and her hands became her GPS. She wore no shoes on stage, putting her stocking feet in direct contact with the vibrations of her bandmates for flawless teamwork.

Harvey's performance last week was full-bodied and extraordinary and kept the crowd mesmerized in a state of awe-inspiring wonder.

She taught the crowd sign language. Instead of putting their hands together to clap, she suggested they raise their arms and wiggle their fingers.

Harvey was accompanied by a jazzy quartet playing excellent piano, electric guitar, electric bass, harmonica and per-

cussion, with each young man having the opportunity to display his talent with tasty breaks.

The concert program was divided between pop rock songs and originals with only one standard, "Cry Me A River," during which the Siuslaw shed sweet tears.

Harvey's original songs told stories with lyrics reminiscent, witty and poignant. "Release Me" evoked the exuberance of Janis Joplin. "Greed," based on the Seven Deadly Sins, was funny, especially the crescendo ending with "more" when the drummer went nuts!

"Butterfly Kisses," a lullaby, tugged heartstrings; Harvey wrote it for parents only able to observe but not touch their children undergoing chemotherapy.

Cover songs included Coldplay's "Yellow" and "In My Place," The Turtles' "Happy Together," Radiohead's "Creep," Spiral Staircase's "More Today Than Yesterday," and Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" to which the crowd shouted with joy and a lot of finger-wiggling.

Harvey and company returned for an encore. The Animals' rendition of "The House of the Rising Sun."

Clearly, Harvey's stellar performance raised the rooftop at the FEC. Her beautiful singing, resplendent personality and shining optimism proved that an invisible disability is no barrier to success.

# City Lights brings 'Best Of' festival to Florence

The Northwest Film Festival brings its 44th Annual "Best Of" program to City Lights Cinemas Tuesday, Feb. 27, with screenings at 1 and 6:30 p.m.

Regular City Lights prices apply, with tickets at \$9 adult, \$8.50 for senior/student/military, \$8 matinee (before 2 p.m.), \$7 child under 12 and \$6.50 for members.

The Best of the 44th Northwest Filmmakers' Festival touring program presents a carefully selected cross-section of filmmaking from the Northwest.

The Northwest Film Center presents this showcase to bring the filmmakers wider exposure

while offering regional independent films to venues and audiences large and small.

This year's program includes the shorts "Time Well Spent," "Do We Leave This Here," "Dinosaurs In The Hood," "Float," "Vestibular Matching Soundtrack," "Lost Winds," "Culture Trauma" and "A Mew Hope."

More information about the festival can be found at [nwfilmforum.org/films/best-44th-northwest-filmmakers-festival](http://nwfilmforum.org/films/best-44th-northwest-filmmakers-festival).

Tickets may be purchased at City Lights Cinemas, 1930 Highway 101, and at [citylightscinemas.com](http://citylightscinemas.com).

## Spirituali-Tea to learn about 'No Weapons of Destruction'

This Monday, Feb. 26, beginning at 6:30 p.m., all are invited to join a group that enjoys finding common grounds in diverse spiritual thoughts. The group meets at 875 Seventh St.

The topic for Monday's gathering is "No Weapons of Destruction."

The Bahá'í writings say, "Gracious God! This people need no weapons of destruction, inasmuch as they have girded themselves to reconstruct the world. Their hosts

are the hosts of goodly deeds, and their arms the arms of upright conduct and their commander the fear of God..."

Bring your thoughts on the subject for open discussion.

The gathering will end at 8 p.m. with prayers for the requests left in the Prayer Pole in the garden of the Florence Playhouse and those shared by the group.

For more information, call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.

## Florence Unitarians hear about psychology, psychiatry

On Sunday, Feb. 25, at the Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, FUUF members Dr. Karen Hernandez and Dr. Jim McDiarmid will lead the service.

Both Hernandez and McDiarmid are clinical psychologists who taught physicians-in-training in a family practice residency in Merced, Calif. In addition, Hernandez had a private practice and McDiarmid taught undergraduate university students. They

will discuss the status of psychology and psychiatry in the United States today.

The meeting will be from 10 to 11 a.m.

FUUF is located at 87738 Highway 101, at Heceta Beach Road, and is wheelchair accessible. Each service concludes with refreshments and a dialogue circle to explore the questions that come up during each worship service.

For more information, visit [www.florenceuuf.org](http://www.florenceuuf.org).

## SWC to discuss salmon, invasive weeds Feb. 28

At the next Siuslaw Watershed Council (SWC) general meeting to be held Wednesday, Feb. 28, the topics will be "Invasive Weeds on the Oregon Dunes" and "Salmon and Trout of the Siuslaw."

The meeting will be held at the Florence Senior Center, 1570 Kingwood St., with doors opening at 6 p.m. and the meeting getting underway at 6:30 p.m.

Invasive weeds have been spreading like wildfire on local coastal dunes for more than a century, displacing

native plants and wildlife habitat at an alarming rate.

Learn about the weeds and their effect on dunes habitat and what is being done about it. The discussion will be led by Armand Rebischke, Siuslaw National Forest Restoration Botanist.

Also, Ron Caputo from Florence STEP (Salmon, Trout Enhancement Program) will give an overview of their fisheries programs in the Siuslaw.

As always, there will also be reports by the SWC board and executive director.

# Join Us In Worship

## BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Friday Evenings - 6 p.m. SINGSPARATION  
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## THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Located at Munsel Lake Road and North Fork Road  
Worship Services 10:00 AM Sunday  
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## COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer -- 997-7418  
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. - Worship, 10:45  
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. - Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.

## CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Corner of 10th & Maple - 997-3533  
Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections  
Adult Bible Class, 9:30am on Sundays.  
Sunday Services, 9am and 10:45am.  
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## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - SBC

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Middle School and High School youth groups meet on Wednesday.

## FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)  
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.  
[www.churchofchristflorence.org](http://www.churchofchristflorence.org)

## FLORENCE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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Saturdays, Mens' Breakfast @ 8 a.m.  
Online Worship Service@ [www.florencecaz.com](http://www.florencecaz.com)

## FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

1318 Rhododendron Dr. - 997-2523 - Worship at 11:00 AM  
-- Sunday School at 9:30 AM --  
Variety of Sunday evening activities - 5 PM  
Wed. Bible & Children classes at 6:00 PM  
Call for details.

## FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951  
Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.  
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

## FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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## FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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9:00 and 10:30 each following Sunday  
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Sunday Services: 10am and 6pm  
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

## NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.

21st & Spruce Street - 997-8113  
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Worship services: Sun. 10:30am & Mon. 5:30 pm  
Pastor Lori Blake  
[www.lutheranchurchflorence.com](http://www.lutheranchurchflorence.com)

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW

Traditional Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Reverend Greg Wood  
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## RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

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Brittany Hornung, CPA  
has 10 years of tax preparation and accounting experience and received her  
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