

Annual Rotary Auction impacts students with scholarships

The Rotary Club of Florence will be holding its annual scholarship auction on Saturday, March 10, starting at 5 p.m. The theme for this year's event is "Let the Games Begin!" in recognition of the 2018 Olympics.

The 2017 Rotary Auction raised \$115,00 for local scholarships and community projects for youth, hunger and seniors.

Courtney King graduated with the class of 2015, the same year she received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Rotary Club of Florence. A current student of Oregon State University, King is working on a double major in education and English, harboring the aspiration to teach secondary



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English and language arts. In the long run, King plans on receiving her master's in edu-

Siuslaw High School graduate Courtney King received a Rotary Club of Florence scholarship in 2015, which helped her on her dreams towards a career in education and coaching.

cation and pursuing an administrator's license shortly after she completes her undergraduate work.

In addition to teaching in the classroom, King has career goals to work as a cross country/track and field/basketball coach, before retiring as an educational administrator.

Being part of a team has been an impactful part of King's educational experience, although the most involvement with sports she has had since graduating high school has come from coaching.

King was presented with the opportunity to do some coaching work with the Corvallis Boys and Girls Club track and field program, an opportunity she gladly accepted.

"When I applied, I just thought I [would be] assistant coach and get a feel for how their program ran," said King, "but I was shocked when I found out I'd been offered the position of Athletic Director/Track and Field Specialist. For me, this was like a dream job. I love working with others, especially kids,

and I love what track and field can teach you."

King has taken on this position alongside full-time school work and additional extracurricular activities, but for her, it is well worth the challenge.

Receiving a Rotary scholarship has allowed King the time to engage in these kinds of meaningful opportunities that come her way.

Aside from coaching, King has been actively involved in Women of Alpha Omicron Pi, the OSU Organic Grower's Club and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

In addition to this, King still finds time to go to youth group, spend time with new friends, and continues to build life-long relationships with others.

She attributes part of her success at this time in her life to the Rotary Scholarship she received in 2015.

"It's no secret that school carries quite the price-tag," jokes King, "but I think that the benefits of pursuing education and expanding your knowledge base are worth it, just as taking the time to apply for scholarships is."

More information about this year's Rotary Auction is available from the auction coordinators Kevin McMullin at hobergs.autorepair@gmail.com and Kim Erickson at kim.erickson@opbc.com or on the Florence Rotary website www.theflorencerotary.org/auction-about.php.

PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE SEEKS ARTISTS FOR OUTDOOR GALLERY PROGRAM

The Florence Public Art Committee has created an exciting new program to enhance the beauty and livability of the local community by regularly introducing original outdoor art into Florence to create a unique sense of place and enhance community identity.

This program, called "Art Exposed — Dynamic Public Art" provides a creative outlet for artists to display their work, and artists are encouraged to submit unique pieces that demonstrate extraordinary cre-

ativity and elicit a feeling of "Wow" from all who view them.

Many cities around the world are engaged in programs of this type and they create excitement for both the community and visitors.

Five locations for this art have been selected by the Public Art Committee and are in the high visibility/high traffic area of Historic Old Town Florence along Bay Street. This area is filled with restaurants, galleries and specialty shops

and provides a beautiful backdrop for artwork right along the Siuslaw River.

Art displayed in this program must be available for sale to the public. Initial art displayed will be installed for a period of two years and each artist will be provided a stipend for the installation of \$500.

The City will provide bases for the art and may assist with installation.

All artwork must be the original design and artwork of the entrant and suitable for viewing

by all ages.

All artists over 18 years old are eligible.

Details of the five Old Town locations are in the entry form, and artists are encouraged to submit work for all locations if they wish. There is a \$25 fee per artist to submit work.

Should art be purchased prior to the end of the two-year period, the artist shall be given first opportunity to replace art with a suitable piece to be approved by the Public Art Committee. If the artist chooses

not to replace the work, the space will be made available to a new artist through a new "Call to Artists."

The City of Florence will collect a 30 percent commission on any art sold.

Applications should be submitted through Café. This is a well-known and respected website for managing all types of art entries throughout the United States and internationally.

Artists can register for free by visiting www.callforentry.org.

It is easy to register and, by registering once, artists have access to "calls" from all over the world.

For additional information, contact Florence City Recorder Kelli Weese at 541-997-3437 or kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us

The deadline for submissions is Sunday, Feb. 25.

The Public Art Committee will make the final selection and artists will be notified during the week of March 19.

The artwork is scheduled to be installed by April 23.

"Art Exposed — Dynamic Public Art" is another in the series of Public Art activities that will help all Florence citizens and visitors experience art in a new way.

PTA to host annual SES talent show

Students from Siuslaw Elementary School are set to take the stage and share their talents on Thursday, March 8. The annual show, hosted by Florence Community PTA (FCPTA), will take place at the Florence Events Center at 6 p.m.

Student talent ranging from gymnastics to piano, singing and more will highlight the student showcase.

"These students have a wealth of talent to share with our community," said Tiffany Holdahl, FCPTA president. "We hope to pack the house with a full audience."

Tickets for the event are available in the Siuslaw Elementary Office and cost \$3 each. A limited number of tickets may also be available at the door, though pre-purchase is encouraged.

All proceeds benefit the programs of the FCPTA including teacher grants, scholarships for graduating teachers and events to encourage engagement of students and their families.

For more information, email florencecommunitypta@yahoo.com.

Ada Grange to celebrate 100th birthday

Ada Grange invites the community to its 100th birthday Saturday, March 3, from 1 to 3 p.m. There will be a short program and entertainment, and cake and ice cream will be served.

Over the years, Ada Grange has made many contributions to the community. Some of its current projects are Relay for Life, Siuslaw Outreach Services, veterans and more.

The Grange Hall is located 10 miles out Canary Road at 82457 S. Canary Road.

Call Megan Schofield at 541-997-6933 for more information.

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