

VIEWFINDERS ANNOUNCE TOP PHOTOS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL



Siuslaw Viewfinders April photo winners were (from left) from John Colwell, "Oliver Making a Cake;" Stephanie Ames, "Duffy in the Sun;" and Lail Robinson, "Huey in his Bowl."

In April, even amid many showers for our town, the sun shone brightly on the Siuslaw Viewfinders Camera Club winners of the month's theme "Pets."

John Colwell staged a wonderful and thought-provoking set for his adorable Oliver, winning him first place.

Second place was won by Lail Robinson with his sweet-faced Aussie

Huey. The eyes really have it on that one.

Third place was Stephanie Ames' rendition of her Duffy with a sharp contrast of black and white.

The Viewfinders' next meeting is

May 7 in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth street. The group meets from 6 to 8 p.m.

All photographers are welcome to come and join the fun of learning from

the pros and seeing how they can grow their photography journey.

May's theme is "It's The Little Things."

For more information, contact Nancy Pruitt at 541-554-1441.

Florence Public Art Committee answers community questions

In an on-going effort to involve the public in its work, the Public Art Committee (PAC) would like to share more information about the upcoming Art Exposed Project and some commonly asked questions.

Art and beauty are both in the eye of the beholder, yet there are tools and ways to view public art to better understand art. Asking questions is an important way to discover and learn.

The Art Exposed: Dynamic Public Art Project will be coming to the Historic Old Town area as a first step in bring vibrant and thriving Public Art to Florence. PAC held a public meeting in March to discuss art for the temporary two-year installation.

There are five sites that will show-

case these amazing outdoor gallery pieces.

A goal is to install some of the works before the Rhododendron Days 2018.

How do I look at public art?

When looking at art, ask yourself questions. Think about the location and how it relates. Think about the "wow factor" the works presents. Does this piece make you say "wow?" Seek information about the artist/s, which might help you discover information or meanings about the work. Which perspective is best? Does it look different in the day, night or change of seasons? What does it make you wonder?

Why is Art Exposed, and what public art projects are centered in Old Town?

The Art Exposed Project and others are located in the Old Town/Florence Urban Renewal District (FURA) due to current funding.

The PAC spends a lot of time and energy researching and taking into consideration the locations for art in the FURA district and all around the City of Florence. The goals are to enhance the beauty and livability of our community to create a unique sense of place and enhance community identity.

In the future, the City of Florence and PAC are planning to expand funding to place art everywhere in

Florence.

If you would like more information or to help bring the arts to greater Florence, contact Kelli Weese at kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us or sign up for informational emails at ci.florence.or.us/newsletter/subscriptions.

How do I view call to artists for public art?

The PAC posts Calls for Art on CallforEntry.org, which also goes by the name CaFE. This is a professionally recognized call for art website for all types of art, not just public art.

This system allows artists to seek projects that match their skills, provide artists with opportunities outside and inside their region. In addition, it

allows for the administration for the call to go more smoothly and give calls a broader reach for artists that would have the most impact of the project.

The PAC also links calls and project information on the city website, ci.florence.or.us.

How do I learn more about PAC and its projects?

To learn more about the City of Florence Public Art Program, visit www.ci.florence.or.us/bc-pac/public-art-program.

PAC also invites the community to participate in its public meetings; check the calendar for the most up to date information on the city website.

Florence could be named U.S.'s next 'Small Town for Adventure'

Florence is in the running for some prestigious national media designation — again. USA Today's 10Best.com has just listed Florence, Ore., as a top destination, this time for adventure.

"Last year Florence was

named to the top 20 Best Small Towns in the Northwest, and after a month of online voting came in second. This year we're asking the public's support to be named the country's number one Small Town for Adventure," said Bettina

Hannigan, executive director of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce.

She added, "USA Today's writers already point out that adrenaline junkies flock to Florence for some of the nation's best sand dunes for buggy rides, sand boarding, hiking and fat-tire biking. They also list fishing, crabbing and clamming as popular pastimes. What they missed is surfing, kiteboarding, wind surfing, SUP, hiking and camping in pristine ancient forests, deep sea fishing, beachcombing and a long list of other outdoor pursuits — including searching for Bigfoot. And yes, I've heard that people come here for that too. Talk about an adventure."

Hannigan explained that adventures don't stop with the typical outdoor pursuits.

"The adventures continue in the culinary category with world famous clam chowder, exquisite international cuisine and unique northwest fusion foods fresh from the local farms and waters. Florence is also home to April's FlorenceFest for wine, art and jazz and October's Wine & Chowder Trail," she said.

Florence's adventures also include art and culture.

"Florence has a public art trail, regularly scheduled art walks, a charm trail, an art house movie theater and many high-end galleries and shops," Hannigan explained. "Right next to the Historic Old Town area is Florence's Antique District, full of treasures and delights. Around town we've got several performance venues including the 500-seat Florence Events Center with

local and national caliber performances. We've also got two excellent museums for regional history and military history, and if gaming is your kind of adventure, there's Three Rivers Casino Resort."

For literary adventure, fans of Frank Herbert's "Dune" novels and movies will find the inspirational source for his works here in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. The Siuslaw Public Library even has a "Dune Room" commemorating his works and connections to the area.

"Florence is the best and we know it, so let's make sure everyone else does too," Hannigan said.

Out of the initial 20 on 10Best.com's list, Florence is one of four locations on the west coast, and the only one

in Oregon.

"This is a matter of state pride," Hannigan said. "We're up against some heavyweights: Sun Valley, Idaho; Telluride, Colo.; Jackson Hole, Wyo.; Sedona, Ariz.; Moab, Utah; Watkins Glen, NY; Bar Harbor, Maine; Everglades City, Fla.; and Stowe, Vt."

Voters can vote daily on every device they own — phones, tablets and computers — through May 15.

"Winning this competition will mean increased tourism for Florence, and tourism is our lifeblood," Hannigan said. "We can't do it without your vote today and every day until May 15."

People can vote at www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-small-town-for-adventure/florence-oregon/.

Votes can be added daily.

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Thursday, May 3
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Homegrown Public House
 294 Laurel St., Florence
 Beverages, appetizers & giveaways!

RSVP and Questions to Lyndse Neppl,
RNRecruitment@peacehealth.org
jobs.peacehealth.org

theshedd.org/JazzKings
The Emerald City Jazz Kings

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You Asked For It
SUNDAY, MAY 6, 2018 - 2:00PM
 Under the direction of Jesse Collinger - Shirley Address, Siri Vik and Bill Hulings will bring their vocal talents to the Florence stage.
 Jazz Kings tickets are available from www.eventcenter.org or through the Florence Events Center box office at 541-997-1994.