

FLOTONES SHOW THAT ‘MUSIC MATTERS’

Does music matter? Why yes — and for a lot longer than you might have imagined. Back in the fourth century BC, Plato, a guy you may have heard of, said “Music is the foundation of the soul and the heart of humanity. All other disciplines exist to serve music.”

That guy was one smart dude.

Fast forward about 24 centuries. Were his prizes, his honors and the public acclamation awarded him the thing that brought the greatest joy to one of the most illustrious scientists who ever lived?

“I know that the most joy in my life has come to me from my violin,” said Albert Einstein.

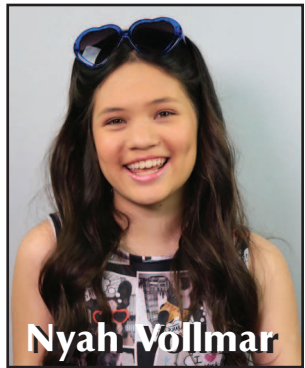
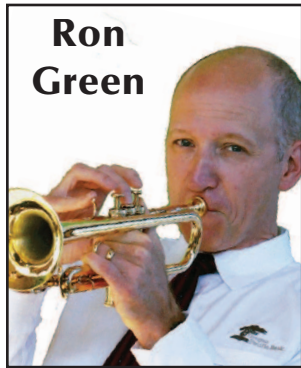
Take it from a pair of smart dudes: music matters!

While the FloTones may not have the name recognition of Einstein or Plato, music matters to its members as well. They clearly experience the joy of music through their vocal jazz performances. And, wishing to share this with the coastal community, the FloTones are producing two performances of “Music Matters!” Saturday and Sunday, May 26 and 27, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

The FloTones will be introducing new songs recently added to their repertoire, including “Misty” and “For All We Know,” and will include an audience favorite, Chuck Cassey’s arrangement of “The William Tell Overture.”

Sharing the stage with the FloTones will be four CROW Kids, all recently on stage in the Children’s Repertory of Oregon production of “Tarzan.” The CROW Kids soloists include Alizabeth Norton, William Owens, Kristen Owens and Elyse Stewart. The selections they will be singing include “Someone Like You,” “Imagine,” “Wild Horses” and “A Million Dreams.”

The second half of the shows will feature The Miles To Go Quintet, made up of percussionist and group founder Nate Kaplan, songstress Maree Beers, bass-



ist Ray Brassfield, guitarist Michael Anderson and keyboardist Greg Aldridge. The popular quintet features familiar jazz tunes and appears frequently in the Florence area. They have a regular gig in Blue Bills Sports Bar in the Three Rivers Casino Resort.

Guest artists also include trumpet player Ron Green accompanying the FloTones and Nyah Vollmar with the Miles To Go Quintet.

The program will support music education in the Siuslaw School District.

Does music matter to Florence’s school age youngsters? Just listen to what two Siuslaw High School students say — “Music gives me a way to express myself in a positive and healthy way” and “Music matters to me because without it I would have never discovered my voice. It makes life fun and colorful.”

And it isn’t just the students.

Band Director Chris Rowbotham added, “Being in a band is about time management, dedication to practice and working together as team — all great qualities to have to be successful at anything they want to do.”

Echoing Plato, vocal choral director Bruce Morganti added his own perspective.

“Music is important because it *IS*; it matters because it is an essential part of being human,” he said.

Music Matters will be May 26 and 27 at the Florence Events Center. The Saturday performance is at 7 p.m. and the Sunday matinee will be at 3 p.m. Tickets, 20 for adults and \$10 for students, are available now at the events center box office and online at eventcenter.org.

COAST CENTRAL

FREE MONTHLY GUIDE TO ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT ON THE OREGON COAST

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Welcome to Coast Central, a monthly publication focusing on arts and entertainment on and near the central and southern Oregon coast, from Florence to Bandon.

Submit all press releases, photos, calendar events and gallery listings to PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. Coast Central is published the first week of every month, so plan accordingly when submitting events.

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