

# Audition in January for CROW's Spring Production of 'Mary Poppins'

Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) will be holding open auditions for Disney's "Mary Poppins" in January 2020.

The beloved classic tale follows the story of young Jane and Michael, who have sent many a nanny packing before a magical new person arrives on their doorstep. Utilizing a combination of snarky wit and common sense, Mary Poppins must teach the Banks family how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect — even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the practically perfect nanny.

"Mary Poppins" marks CROW's ninth spring production, and will be performed April 17 to 26 at the Florence Events Center, and for invited school audiences on April 16.

Local audiences may recall that last Spring, CROW produced a main stage production of "The Wiz," which packed the FEC, and delighted local audiences.

CROW is a Florence-based nonprofit organization and is dedicated to giving back to the community by providing quality performing arts experiences to local youth. In addition to providing a very professional work environment for the cast members, CROW utilizes the highest caliber costumes, sets, lighting design, choreography,

music, sound, stage makeup and much more.

There are great roles for ages 6-22+, and all youth are encouraged to try out regardless of previous stage experience.

Mature 3.5-7 years olds will be considered for "Telegrammers," which is a reduced rehearsal commitment.

Auditions will be held at CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101 on Jan. 20 and 21 at 6:30 p.m. Invited Callbacks will be held on Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Parents should also attend

the initial audition to help fill out forms. Hopefuls will need to bring 16-32 bars, or about one minute, from a song that they would like to sing (sheet music or a CD, MP3 track with no background voices are acceptable), and a headshot/resume if they have one. If you don't know a song, "Happy Birthday" or "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" are acceptable.

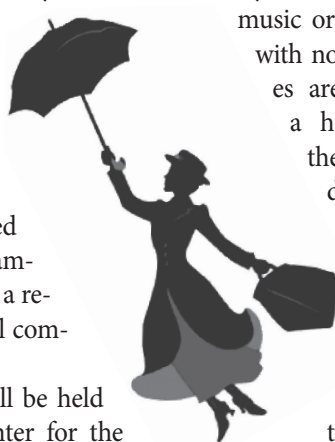
Prospective cast members will also be taught a short dance combination, and those asked to come to callbacks will read sides from the script. Interested families are strongly

encouraged to check out the CROW website for all of the information needed to prepare for the audition.

Rehearsals for "Mary Poppins" will begin Jan. 27 and are generally held weeknights from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. A schedule will be available for perusal at the audition. Not all cast members are called every night.

Director Melanie Heard stresses that "performing in these productions is a big commitment. It's very hard work and requires dedication, but when the curtain opens in April, we know you will agree that it was worth it!"

For a casting breakdown, FAQ's, and detailed audition information, visit [www.crowkids.com](http://www.crowkids.com).



## FEC Centerstage January 2020 December 28, 2019

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### SEAcoust presents Alexander Boldachev

SEAcoust Entertainment Association continues its 2019-20 season with Russian-Swiss harpist and composer Alexander Boldachev on Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. The ticketed concert begins at 7 p.m. It will be preceded by a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m.

Boldachev performs a diverse repertoire that includes classical, pop and rock music. He tours the world and thrills audiences everywhere.

He plays his own arrangements and original compositions, presenting his vision of the future for classical. His new electro-acoustic harp, a Salvi instru-

ment, offers a new sound and unique aesthetic.

Boldachev is an invited soloist of the Bolshoi Theatre and has received awards from over 10 international competitions, including a prize for culture from the European Cultural Foundation, Pro Europa.

As a composer, he has

transcribed over 150 compositions for the harp and has written 30 original works, including three for harp and orchestra. He holds degrees from the Zurich University of the Arts.

Tickets are \$35 and are available now by calling the event center box office at 541-997-1994 or [eventcenter.org](http://eventcenter.org).



### Attend workshops, jam 'til midnight, at Winter Music Festival

It will be a hot time on the Oregon Coast this January during the 18th annual Florence Winter Music Festival.

Each day's theme will keep concertgoers coming back for more — Bluegrass Friday, Americana Saturday and Folk Music Sunday — with nine high-caliber groups delivering sumptuous servings of musical flavors Jan. 24, 25 and 26 at the Florence Events Center.

New this year will be free on-site jam sessions and daily workshops by festival musicians on songwriting, guitar skills, and jamming. Workshops are free to concert ticketholders and \$20 for non-concertgoers. Free, dedicated, on-site jamming space is available beginning at noon on Friday and 1 on Saturday and Sunday. Jam sessions take place in the workshop room any time

other than when workshops are under way. The Friday and Saturday jams end at midnight and Sunday's jam ends at 4 p.m.

Workshops include: "Beginners How-to-Jam Workshop" led by Janet Wellington on Friday, Jan. 24, from noon to 1 p.m. All are welcome and will learn how to figure out the key others are playing in, how a round-robin circle jam works, what to expect at festival jams and how to apply the common 1-4-5 chord progression in each key. Handouts will be provided. Formal jam to follow. "Learn to Jam Bluegrass Style" led by Annie Savage on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 9 to 10 a.m. Savage, fiddler extraordinaire for the Greg Blake Band with a Ph.D. in music education, leads this jam



workshop. Attendees are encouraged to bring their acoustic instrument and will be introduced to the ground rules of jamming, how to lead songs and "fake" breaks, find melodies and sing harmonies — all at gentle tempos in a supportive, low-pressure environment.

"Guitar Workshop" led by Jim Hurst on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The master himself will lead an all-levels workshop with something for everyone. Hurst will cover the proper way to play rhythm, how to structure a lead "break," and the basics of fingerpicking. Acoustic instruments and audio recording devices welcome.

"True North Duo Songwriting Workshop," led by

award-winning and nationally-recognized singer-songwriters Kristen Grainger and Dan Wetzel, will be Sunday, Jan. 26, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Think "Tangled Up in Blue," "Poncho and Lefty" and "Alice's Restaurant." Story songs are a fundamental part of the American folk music. In this 90-minute interactive songwriting workshop you'll learn the fundamentals of songwriting, including the basic framework and elements of a song, forms and arrangements, and how to identify key lines and ideas that bring a song to life.

The Florence Winter Music Festival is produced by the 501 (c) (3) nonprofit Friends of the Florence Events Center, an all-volunteer membership organization that helps fund capital improvements and performance grants at the venue.

### FRAA Winter Arts Festival 2020

This year the FRAA Winter Arts Festival will be held Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the Winter Music Festival weekend



at the Florence Events Center.

Curated by the Florence Regional Arts Alliance, the annual Arts Festival brings together local and regional artists and craftsmen to fill more than 30 booths with their latest creations. In addition to selling their art, over the course of the weekend select artists will demonstrate how their art or craft is created.

A sample of the wide variety of unique creations includes works of art in wood, art for the garden, fiber creations of all kinds, glass works of art, jewelry designs in various media and handmade goodies to sample.

Admission to the Arts Festival is FREE.

For more information on the Winter Arts Festival, contact Event Chair Claudia Brown at 541-902-1933.