

The rhythm of healing

SOPHIA EDELBLUTE
SEDELBLUTE
@CGSENTINEL.COM

From S 8th Street to S 6th Street and Main, the rhythm of the djembe, a traditional West African drum, draws people in on the evening of Friday, June 25.

Special musical guest to Cottage Grove's Art Walk, Fodé Isamael Sylla, plays alongside his friend, Joshua Caraco. Caraco plays the kora, a string instrument of West Africa. Together they weave a melody through downtown.

"Music is the answer," says B.J. Jones, who scheduled Fodé to come play. She's also general manager of the Music Money nonprofit in Cottage Grove. "People are just happy not only to be out but

to have music, live music in downtown again, because it was a regular thing and then it was gone. It feels good to see people's smiling faces."

Fodé has been playing djembe all his life, since he was very young he says. He's originally from Guinea and ended up in the states performing for Cirque de Soleil. After three years of touring, he decided "to share my knowledge as a dance instructor and drum instructor, so that's how I ended up in Oregon."

He met Caraco about three years ago at a performance. There, Caraco was playing kora, which he learned to play while studying abroad in Senegal in 2008.

Fodé recognized the instrument and "invited him to my group and when he has a show I will join him and when I

have a gig I will invite him and we share music because music is all about healing."

"We are able to play together quite easily because [Fodé] is familiar with Kora repertoire," says Caraco.

"We play [kora] when people are sad, when we lost some people, we play for a funeral," says Fodé. "And when we are celebrating, it is also playing. Same as when we play djembe, it's a universal language. It doesn't know color or race or anybody. Once you put your hands on it it brings people together. So that has been my passion, bringing people together and helping them live in the moment."

On this evening as they play, people gather in Opal Whiteley Park to listen

and dance. The rhythm is almost transfixing. Music has returned to the Cottage Grove Art Walk.

"It's one of the most amazing things," says Jones. "It's a healing thing and it's a fun thing."

Fodé echoed the Jones' sentiment on the importance of music.

"Cottage Grove, this is probably my third time being here because as we all know, we are living in a dark time right now. It's hard and music, I think we all need music," he says. "Music helps us be in the moment. It's just like, move and dance and feel our soul. So I call it a healing time, and we are happy to be here, sharing with the community because it brings community together, brings tolerance and peace."



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Fodé Isamael Sylla (right) and Joshua Caraco play together in All-America City Square (aka Opal Whiteley Park) for Cottage Grove's Art Walk. Fodé plays the djembe drums and Caraco plays the Kora.

CONCERTS MAKE A COMEBACK

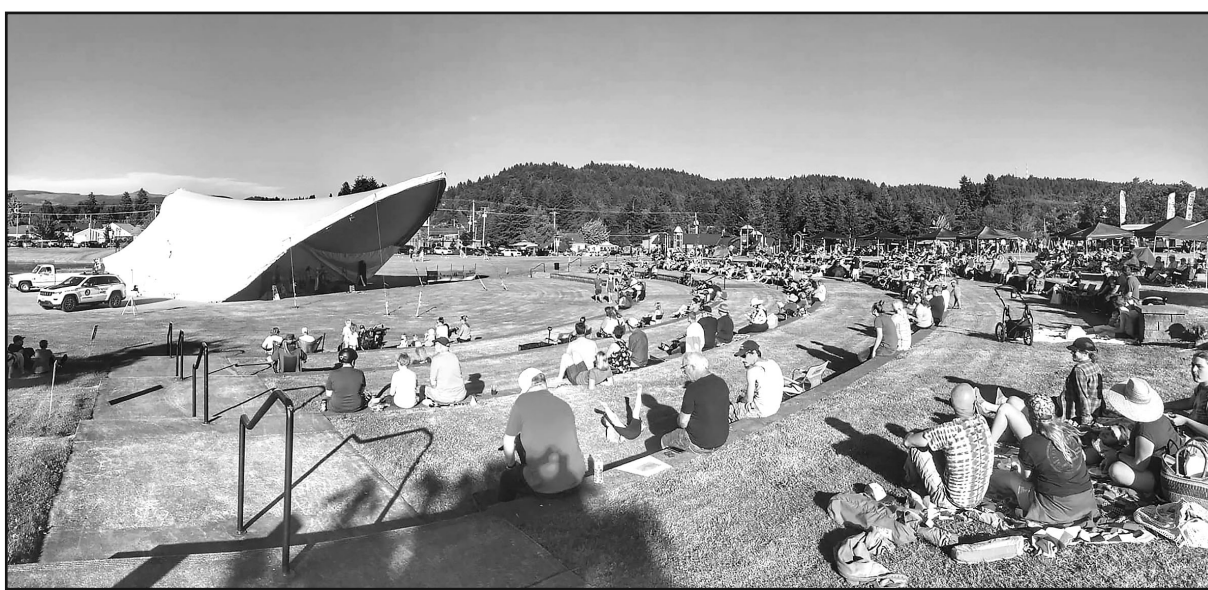


PHOTO COURTESY OF KENNETH MICHAEL ROBERTS

Concerts in the Park made a rousing return to The Grove on June 23 with a foot-tapping performance by Gabe Schliffer and the Sugar Pine String Band. Wednesday marked the first concert since the summer of 2019 as last year's concerts were called off due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Chamber of Commerce's summer series of concerts is produced by KNND and will showcase a different musical talent every Wednesday in Bohemia Park from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Worship Directory

COTTAGE GROVE:

6th & Gibbs Church of Christ
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822
10:00am
Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th
Tim Baker, Senior Minister
www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church
77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290
Pastor: Riley Hendricks
Sunday School: 9:45am
Worship: 11:00am
The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm
Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Church of Christ
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565
Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church
1200 East Quincy Avenue
541-942-4771
Pastor: Bob Singer
Worship 11am
Sunday School: 9:45am
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm
www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center
33761 Row River Rd.
541-942-4851
Lead Pastor: Kevin Prueff
www.cg4.tv
Full Children's Ministry available
Services: 9:00am & 10:45am

Delight Valley
Church of Christ
33087 Saginaw Rd. East
541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend
Two Services:
9am - Classic in the Chapel
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

First Baptist Church
301 S. 6th St • 541-942-8242
Pastor: David Chhangte
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30am
Youth Wednesday 6:30pm
cgfirstbaptist.com

First Presbyterian Church

3rd and Adams St
541-942-4479
Rev.: Karen Hill
Worship: 10:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am
fpcgrove.com

Hope Fellowship

United Pentecostal Church
100 S. Gateway Blvd.
541-942-2061
Pastor: Dave Bragg
Worship: 11:00am Sunday
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday
www.hopefellowshipupc.com
"FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"

Living Faith Assembly

467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612
Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a
Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

Non-Denominational

Church of Christ

1041 Pennoyer Ave
541-942-8928
Preacher: Tony Martin
Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am
Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm
www.pennoyeravcoc.com

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and

St. Philip Benizi

Catholic Churches
1025 N. 19th St.
541-942-3420
Father John J. Boyle
Holy Mass:
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 10:30 am
For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website
OLPHCG.net
Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM
Saturdays or by appointment
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell
552 Holbrook Lane
Sunday 8 am

St. Andrews Episcopal Church

1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050
Rev. Lawrence Crumb
"Scripture, Tradition, Reason"
Worship: Sunday 10:30am
All Welcome

Seventh-day Adventist Church

820 South 10th Street
541-942-5213
Pastor: James D. Boram
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

Trinity Lutheran Church

6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373
Pastor: James L. Markus
Sunday School & Adult Education
9:15am

United Methodist Church

334 Washington 541-942-3033
Worship 10am
umcgrove.org

"VICTORY" Country Church

913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913
Pastor: Barbara Dockery
Worship Service: 10:00am
Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

CRESWELL:

Creswell Presbyterian Church
75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419
Rev. Seth Wheeler
Adult Sunday School 9:15am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
website www.creswellpres.org



Our Worship Directory is a weekly feature.
If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory,
contact us today!

Cottage Grove
Sentinel
541-942-3325
1498 E. Main St
Suite 104
Cottage Grove, OR

Enjoy the ease of Showering Safely

So you can stay in the home you love!



Call today and receive exclusive savings of up to
\$750 OFF
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY
Call 541-238-9737
SAFE STEP WALK-IN SHOWER
www.SafeStepShower.com
With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Shower. Not applicable with any previous walk-in shower purchase. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

Upgrade your bathroom, upgrade your life. With a new walk-in shower, you can make sure your bathroom ages as gracefully as you do. This shower was designed by experts, with you in mind, focusing on safety and convenience when it matters most. Discover how a walk-in shower can help reduce the risk of falling, giving you the freedom to enjoy your bathroom again.

- ✓ Commercial Grade Non-Slip Floor
- ✓ Luxurious 8" Rainfall Shower Head
- ✓ Professionally Installed in 1 day
- ✓ Optional Barrier Free Wheelchair Accessible
- ✓ Easy-to-reach Shower Wand
- ✓ Fold Down Safety Seat
- ✓ Ergo L Shaped Grab Bar
- ✓ Lifetime Warranty

541-238-9737

for more information and ask about our Senior Discounts



CSLB 983603 F13000002885 13HV08744300

VOICE YOUR OPINION! — Write a Letter to the Editor today: Editor@CGSentinel.com