

# ARTS & CULTURE

## Sol Path Collective brings fun in the sun

By SOPHIA EDELBLUTE  
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The Cottage Grove Farmer's Market was treated to a special musical guest this Saturday, Aug. 7. As shoppers browsed a variety of fruits, vegetables, flower arrangements, custom poetry and other assortments, the sound of Flying Caravan's "psychedelic folk" music and Ten Spiders' "bluesy/funky roots rock fun" threaded through the air.

The two groups are a part of Sol Path Collective, a recent musical collective started and run "on the consensus of band leaders," says Maria Cahill, otherwise known as Rossi, front person of Ten Spiders.

The collective originally planned to start up nearly a year and a half ago in April, but had to take it much slower due to the pandemic. Now it's become a sort of "COVID relief for the bands and the community," said Rossi.

Rossi helped book the performance in Cottage Grove by lending their skills to networking and



SOPHIA EDELBLUTE/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

**Ten Spiders takes its turn on stage, following Flying Caravan. Both bands are members of the Sol Path Collective and brought some musical fun to Cottage Grove's Farmer's Market on Saturday.**

communicating with the City of Cottage Grove. "We got our expenses covered by the Chamber of Commerce," they said. "We just wanted to get out and bring some healing music to the people."

The collective is based on

a love of music and a camaraderie between the bands in it.

"You know it's happened really organically and I think it's just a matter of, we're all serious bands," said Rossi. They emphasized the importance of a good relationship,

especially when spending so much time together. "We've been traveling together, and if you're gonna have people in your car for hours and hours you want to like them, you want to be friends with them," they said.

Two members of Flying Caravan, Natty Isabell and Kevin Fiske, shared their experiences as musicians and what it's like to perform.

"I love the feeling of togetherness, I love the feeling of unity," said Isabell, "because it's like the unity in community, people coming together to be unified over art and music."

Isabell started singing at a young age and now writes music for Flying Caravan. She started playing ukulele around the time she ran into Fiske and from there they decided to perform as a band. Every time they do a show the lineup is slightly different, said Isabell. Depending on which musicians are available they might have two people, three, five, and a variety of instrumental talents.

"Flying Caravan to me is

a way of life, it's a concept that I want to bring into reality," said Isabell. "So it's about being able to travel, seeing life as a great adventure no matter if you are traveling near or far."

"We believe really strongly in community building," said Fiske, who added that musical performance is an amazing way to get the community involved and feel unified.

Rossi also remarked on the experience of performance and what it means to them.

"It's just the most satisfying journey," said Rossi. "I used to do this for myself and I've evolved a lot. I've always been like, good if you enjoy it but I'm gonna enjoy it the most. But now I'm kind of like, we all have a lot of healing to do. I want the music to be a source of community for us all."

### Harpies seek local writers

The Harpies, a writing group based in Cottage Grove, plan to put together an anthology of local authors, scheduled for publication in early 2022.

Short stories and essays should be a maximum of 2,000 words. Poems should be a maximum of 50 lines. Up to three poems may be submitted.

The deadline for submission is Aug. 15, 2021.

Submissions are open to South Lane County residents age 16 and up. Digital submissions are preferred.

Hard copies will be accepted at the Harpies Anthology, c/o The Bookmine, 702 Main St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

All submissions are evaluated by the Harpies and all writers will be contacted by Nov. 15, 2021, whether a submission is accepted for publication or not.

For more information, check the website [www.cgharpies.com](http://www.cgharpies.com).

Please send additional questions, concerns and submission to [cgharpies@gmail.com](mailto:cgharpies@gmail.com)

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