

GO! talent

The Bulletin and Scalehouse, a collaborative for the arts, have joined together to raise donations to help Central Oregon's creative artists — musicians, visual artists, performers and creative workers — by offering grants and a platform to bring attention to local amazing talent. This is a crowdfunding effort with a first-round fundraising goal of \$40,000. To make a tax-deductible donation or apply for a grant, go to bendbulletin.com/talent.

Stephanie Slade and Patrick Pearsall

BY BRIAN MCELHINEY
For The Bulletin

As musicians and music teachers, Stephanie Slade and Patrick Pearsall saw their jobs shut down along with the rest of Central Oregon last year.

The couple, this week's featured artists in the Central Oregon Creative Artists Relief Effort, found ways to keep afloat. Slade received unemployment benefits from a previous job and created and sold art and jewelry; she also learned to play piano. She taught a few voice lessons virtually early in the pandemic but found it to be a challenge.

"It's hard when you can't play and accompany your student at the same time and hear them sing because of the delay and all that stuff," she said.

Pearsall, who plays bass with numerous groups including The Mostest, Fair Trade Boogie Band and The Leadbetter Band, lost most of his gigs. He continued to teach music in a limited capacity

in Bend schools.

"I certainly played at best a quarter of the shows I play in a normal year," Pearsall said. "But it's hard to tell because for so much of the year, we didn't do anything. We were going to; we all were going to do concerts. We had plans and nothing happened. We didn't make money, but we didn't spend money either."

The couple make up one-half of Bend rock band Slade and the Hatchet, which lay mostly dormant last year except for an appearance with the virtual edition of the Bend Roots Revival in late October.

But with the vaccine out and Deschutes County reopening, music is slowly returning. Slade and Pearsall played a set with Eric Leadbetter for the Worthy Star Bar Sessions early in the year, and Pearsall has played recent shows with Leadbetter and The Mostest. They're both looking forward to trying again with a slate of shows later this year.

"This summer so far seems to

be shaping up to be a modified version of last summer," Pearsall said. "... I'm in The Leadbetter Band, and we just did a streaming show for the Midtown (Ballroom). And the guys who run that place are just now starting, 'OK, how could we maybe do a show in here? And who could we book? And if we can only have 100 people, how much do we have to charge for it to make sense?' So those conversations are starting to happen. But who knows?"

Slade, who lost about 90% of her income last year, said CO CAREs can provide a needed boost.

"I think it just brings to light that this whole area is very artist- and music- and everything-driven," she said. "And without everyone supporting that, it's going to go away. So we need to remember that these people that are full-time musicians and artists, they don't have income coming in, and they're trying to figure it out. We just can't forget the arts in this town."



The Bulletin file

Elviss Simmons and the Memphis Strutters backup singers, from left, Betsy Fe-line (Janelle Travis-Musson), Perstephanie (Stephanie Slade) and Ditzzy Cline (Lisa Jones), harmonize while singing a song together at rehearsal.

GO! listen live

MUSIC & MORE AT LOCAL NIGHTSPOTS THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY 4/21

An Evening with Jake Soto: The bluegrass artist will perform; 6-8 p.m.; The Brown Owl, 550 SW Industrial Way, Bend; go.evnt.com/769746-0 or 541-797-6581.

Spring Sessions — Strong Alibi Unplugged: The rock band will perform on the outdoor stage and be streamed live on the Worthy Facebook page; 6-8 p.m.; Worthy Brewing Company, 495 NE Bellevue Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/758329-0

THURSDAY 4/22

Coyote Willow: The roots duo will perform; 6-8 p.m.; The Brown Owl, 550 SW Industrial Way, Bend; go.evnt.com/769753-0 or 541-797-6581.

Blackstrap Bluegrass: The bluegrass band performs on the outdoor stage; 6-8 p.m.; River's Place, 787 NE Purcell Blvd., Bend; go.evnt.com/763565-0

FRIDAY 4/23

High Desert Nights feat. Katie Pinto and Jake Soto: The local musicians will perform on the outdoor stage; 6-9 p.m.; Bunk+Brew Historic Lucas House, 42 NW Hawthorne Ave., Bend; go.evnt.com/770423-0 or 458-202-1090.

SATURDAY 4/24

Spring Sessions — Earth Day celebration with One Mad Man & Pete K Groove Grass: The local musicians will perform on the outdoor stage and be live streamed on the Worthy Facebook page; 4-8 p.m.; Worthy Brewing Company, 495 NE Bellevue Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/758330-0

Music on the Lawn — Shireen Amini: The world soul-pop artist will perform; 5-7 p.m.; On Tap, 1424 NE Cushing Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/770394-0

Juju Eyeball: The Beatles tribute band will perform; 6-9 p.m.; Pump House Bar & Grill, 8320 U.S. 97, Terrebonne; go.evnt.com/770421-0 or 541-548-4990.

Live at the Vineyard — Magical Mystery Four: The Beatles tribute band will perform outside at the winery. Advance tickets required; 6-9 p.m.; \$20; Faith Hope and Charity Vineyards, 70450 NW Lower Bridge Way, Terrebonne; go.evnt.com/757542-0

Redwood Son: The Americana musician will perform on the restaurant's patio. Reservations accepted; 6-8:30 p.m.; Sisters Depot, 250 W. Cascade Ave., Sisters; go.evnt.com/763817-0

Saturdays in The Yard with Blackstrap Bluegrass: The bluegrass band performs on the outdoor stage; 6-8:30 p.m.; Bunk+Brew Historic Lucas House, 42 NW Hawthorne Ave., Bend; go.evnt.com/763785-0

The HWY 97 Band: The classic rock band performs on the outdoor stage; 6:30-9 p.m.; General Duffy's

Waterhole, 404 SW Forest Ave., Redmond; go.evnt.com/755282-0

SUNDAY 4/25

Alicia Viani Band: An intimate house concert with the local band; 4-7 p.m.; \$20; Highland House Concerts, 65061 Highland Road., Tumalo; eventbrite.com

Appaloosa: The Americana band performs; 6-8 p.m.; River's Place, 787 NE Purcell Blvd., Bend; go.evnt.com/763567-0

WEDNESDAY 4/28

Spring Sessions — Jenner Fox & Natalie Akers: The folk singer-songwriters will perform on the outdoor stage and be live streamed on the Worthy Facebook page; 6-8 p.m.; Worthy Brewing Company, 495 NE Bellevue Drive, Bend; go.evnt.com/758333-0