



CENTRAL OREGON ARTS SCENE

# LIVE COMEDY COMIES BACK ONLINE

BY DAVID JASPER  
The Bulletin

**I**f your weekend agenda includes live comedy, you're in luck — whether you're in the mood for in-person stand-up or would prefer to remain at home and get your yuks via livestream a little longer.

Let's start with Medford-based comedian Carl Lee, who will make three Central Oregon appearances this week, beginning Thursday at Open Space in Bend. On Friday, Lee who's been seen on "Last Comic Standing" and "Def Comedy Jam," will be at High Desert Music Hall, a new venue in Redmond, and then he's back in Bend Saturday to close out his visit with a set at Craft Kitchen and Brewery.

Lee told GO! he didn't really stop performing once COVID-19 hit, and that wasn't because he was doing stand-up livestreams.

"The funny thing about it, I refused to do Zoom," he said. "I was like, 'I'm not doing Zoom.' I turned down a lot of virtual stuff, but I've been very fortunate. I've been doing a lot of private shows."

In addition to presenting his comedy at private gatherings, Lee also has some southwest Oregon venues he produces for as well, sticking to capacity and other protocols.

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**"That still turned out great, because you'd be amazed what kind of energy 50 people can bring. And then when you got a comic who hasn't been on stage in a month, what they bring — so that coming together just makes it so much more beautiful, so much more appreciative, and just goes to show you how live entertainment is just so powerful and just really needed."**

**— Carl Lee, Medford-based comedian** >>



Medford comedian Carl Lee will perform Thursday through Saturday in Bend and Redmond.

Submitted photo