

# Music festival celebrates total solar eclipse

## Local alum takes stage with band

By Angel Carpenter  
Blue Mountain Eagle

MoonLIT Music Festival-goers were treated to a feast for the ears Saturday with several musicians presenting a wide array of beats for the audience.

Up-and-coming artists and bands and local acts wowed the crowd at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day.

The festival was in celebration of the Aug. 21 total solar eclipse.

Local musicians included the Archibald sisters Aliciana and Maleah, Samantha Floyd, Austin McKrola, Les Church and Gary Battle, Marcus Perkins and Nathan Delano and Lyttlewood.

"We enjoyed performing," Perkins said. "We do it for the music and for the fun."

Perkins sang lead vocals as Delano played guitar, presenting originals such as "Let Me Down" and "Garden," among others.

Many in the audience remembered Brianna Murphy-Johnston, a graduate of Grant Union High School, who, in the past, played violin and fiddle for community talent shows and other events.

This time, she took the stage with Wind Fields, a rock and roll band from Callahan, California.

"It's been so much fun seeing familiar faces in the crowd," she said.

She said the group has been together for six months and plans on recording soon.

Wind Fields presented high-energy music with an Irish flair, which included Murphy-Johnston on violin and Julia Fryling on mandolin.

Vince Stevenson, who sings lead vocals and writes their original songs along with Matt Jolliff, said they were enjoying their stay.

"It has been wonderful being in this town," Stevenson said. "This is a beautiful area. It reminds me of Montana."

The group stayed with the violinist's family in Canyon City and planned to perform for another venue on the night of the total solar eclipse.

The Hit Factory, a cover band from Portland, was popular for those wanting to dance, and a Boise-based VCI Audio DJ also joined the show.

Lead singer Jordan White and the band Jane N The Jungle, an alternative band from Phoenix, gave a power-charged performance.

The group has two songs for a commercial in the United States this year, and they recently released a music video, featured on the Huffington Post website.

"We are so happy to be a part of the eclipse festivities, promoting our Honda commercial and EP," White said.

White said she attended performing arts school with event coordinator Jamie Cernazanu of John Day.

Cernazanu, whose stage name is Jamie Rachelle, sang songs to uplift the crowd, re-



Jordan White of Jane N The Jungle performs with Davis Carpenter on drums.



MoonLIT Music Festival coordinator Jamie Rachelle belts out a song she wrote, in honor of the total solar eclipse. Rachelle, also known as Jamie Cernazanu, is from John Day.



Austin McKrola of Mt. Vernon sings "One Call Away" by Charlie Puth under the spotlight at Saturday's MoonLIT Music Festival.



Brianna Murphy-Johnston performs on violin with the band Wind Fields at the Aug. 19 MoonLIT Music Festival.



Brian Dellis of the Phoenix, Arizona, band Jane N The Jungle gets wild with his guitar.



Lyttlewood, a Long Creek duo, performs at Saturday's MoonLIT Music Festival.

minding them of their importance and beauty.

Her signature piece was an original song inspired by Bonnie Tyler's '80s hit "Total Eclipse of the Heart."

Cernazanu expressed her appreciation for the artists

who joined her on the stage.

"I feel blessed to work with a great group of people," she said.

Although attendance was lighter than the Grant County Chamber of Commerce sponsors planned, fans said music

presented was above what they'd expected.

After the concert, Nick Smith of John Day said he and his wife Lindsay thought it was the most fun they'd had in John Day all year.

"We definitely need more events like this here," he said.

"Jamie did a great job putting it all together. It was such an amazing experience watching all of the talented performers."

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SUN - THURS 7:20

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A dollmaker welcomes a nun and several girls from an orphanage into their home, becoming the target of the dollmaker's creation, Annabelle.  
FRI & SAT (4:10) 7:10 9:45  
SUNDAY (4:10) 7:10  
MON - THURS 7:10

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