

'Rising Star' pianist Vladislav Kosminov in Cannon Beach

Pianist Vladislav Kosminov, a native of Uzbekistan, performed an all-classical piano concert on Saturday, Nov. 11, at Cannon Beach Community Church, on the church's newly acquired 7-foot 2008 Steinway grand piano. Almost a full-house audience erupted in a standing ovation at the conclusion of Mr. Kosminov's brilliant classical piano performance cosponsored by Cannon Beach Community Church and Portland Piano International.

Kosminov's program in Cannon Beach opened with Franz Schubert's lyrical and lovely Piano Sonata in A Major, Op. 120. The audience then heard four of Felix Mendelssohn's Songs Without Words (Nos. 1 and



COURTESY DANIEL WASIL

Vladimir Kosminov during his performance in Cannon Beach.

3, Op. 19; Nos. 3 and 6, Op. 30), paired with the premiere of a new work by Oregon composer David Schiff, titled "Six Songs without

Words," inspired by Mendelssohn's works. Kosminov concluded his performance with a flawless performance of Saint-Saens' very de-

CONCERT REVIEW

DAVID ROBINSON
Lead Pastor, Cannon Beach
Community Church

manding Danse Macabre as transcribed by Franz Liszt and later arranged by pianist Vladimir Horowitz.

Well-known Oregon composer David Schiff was present at the Cannon Beach concert to introduce his world premiere composition. Schiff, a professor of music at Reed College, was commissioned by Portland Piano International to compose a new work inspired by a piece from the classical piano repertoire. Portland Piano International received a "Creative Heights Grant" from the Oregon Community

Foundation to commission Oregon composers to create 12 new works for solo piano; Schiff's composition was the ninth.

Schiff spoke in Cannon Beach about his "Six Songs without Words," drawing inspiration from Mendelssohn, as well as from jazz pianist Bill Evans and American composer Aaron Copland. Schiff's new piano composition, played by Kosminov, will be professionally recorded and videotaped, and the resulting audio, video, and sheet music of these compositions will be available at Portland Piano International's website.

"Rising Star" Vladislav Kosminov came to the United States in 2013 to pursue a professional performance certificate at the Lynn

Conservatory of Music as a student of Roberta Rust. Currently, he is pursuing his master's degree under the tutelage of the gold medalist of the 11th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Stanislav Ioudenitch, in Park University, Missouri.

Portland Piano International's "Rising Stars" series was launched in 2015, featuring up-and-coming pianists selected from universities and conservatories from around the world, performing recitals in Portland and in communities outside of the Portland Metro area including Cannon Beach. In October 2017, Portland Piano International contacted Cannon Beach Community Church, hearing that the church had recently acquired a concert-quality Steinway grand piano.

LETTERS

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many years, and many county commissioners attend our summits both in Oregon and in the 10 states and Canadian provinces which make up the membership.

Her longtime work in resilience and emergency preparedness has been an exemplary example of taking the lead on an issue and providing those of us at different levels of government the assurance that this urgent information is being delivered at the local level. Personally, I believe that Commissioner Thompson has done her job in a professional manner, and I am thankful that she has stepped up to serve Clatsop County in this important position.

I would think that if a commissioner travels on the county dime that there are policies and parameters in place that outline what is allowable, and what is not. I have also known Commissioner Thompson to pay her own way to meetings, conferences, etc.

But to use the forum of a public meeting to basically beat up on a commissioner for travel expenses that exceed other commissioners' use of these funds is unprofessional, especially when there are no sanctions being considered.

The travel budget exists to reimburse expenses and the amount does not seem excessive for the time span described. It seems more like common bullying to me, something we are seeing more and more of these days in public forums.

As to the confrontation issue, I would think that it, too, would be handled in an executive session rather than a public board meeting. One just has to wonder what really is going on here.

Finally, one has to wonder just who is going to step up and serve in these elected positions when this type of treatment is so prevalent. The relationships that Commissioner Thompson has built at all levels over the many years that she has worked in the public sector are priceless, and appreciated by those of us lucky enough to have worked with her.

Deborah Boone
Oregon State Representative, House District 32

Voice for the Coast

In response to the allegations against Commissioner Lianne Thompson, I urge the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners to consider the dedication and commitment that Commissioner Thompson has been making to her district, the county and the state in the capacity she serves in her elected position, but also as the co-chairwoman of the Public Safety Subcommittee on Resilience, with the Oregon Association of Counties.

During my second term as chairman of the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Commission, Commissioner Thompson was a steadfast voice for resilience planning for coastal communities, and very active in many of the organizational meetings I attended on tsunami safety and the Oregon Resilience Plan.

In March, she moderated a panel on community resilience in the tsunami zone at the 2017 National Meeting of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute in Portland, and demonstrated strong leadership in promoting community disaster planning at the 2017 Oregon Emergency Management Association Conference in Eugene in late September.

Her ability to attend these types of events and bring her direct representation as an elected public official adds tremendous value to the coastal perspectives on the challenges around risk and resilience. I hope you can appreciate her level of service and commitment in working outside of the box, and usual comfort zones, in order to make change to the status quo.

Jay Wilson
Portland

Resiliency advocate

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support for Clatsop County Commissioner Lianne Thompson. I know Thompson through her

work to support preparedness efforts along the North Coast. She was instrumental in voicing the need and supporting the development of Community Emergency Response Team programs in Clatsop County, including our local high schools.

Commissioner Thompson attends numerous community meetings to stay in touch and lend support to important coastal issues. She was an active committee member of Seaside School District's successful bond campaign to relocate its schools out of the tsunami inundation zone. She also volunteers with the American Red Cross, emergency ham radio, and the medical reserve corps.

Lianne Thompson strives to strengthen the safety and resilience of those in Clatsop County, and I strongly support her in that effort.

Doug Dougherty
Gearhart

Thompson respectful, caring

I feel compelled to voice my concern over what I see happening in our local government. I was disheartened to learn that Commissioner Scott Lee is calling for the resignation of his colleague, Commissioner Lianne Thompson. As I understand it, Commissioner Thompson has not only lived up to the requirements of her position but also goes above and beyond. Does Ms. Thompson intimidate Mr. Lee?

The Astorian reported that Mr. Lee's call for resignation is based on two factors. First, that Commissioner Thompson placed her hands on another when expressing a point. Personally I have not seen improper behaviors or gestures from her in any setting. Lianne is respectful and caring. Frankly this school yard charge is below the office of Commissioner Lee. Second, Mr. Lee cites the amount of

reimbursement is higher than expected. I would expect higher expenses from one who is so active in their position. I know Lianne to be frugal and environmentally conscious.

Lianne Thompson lives, eats and breathes her role as District 5 Clatsop County Commissioner. If she isn't at an event or meeting, she's on her way to or just leaving one. She's been doing extensive travel for the county, when required. When not so engaged, she's most likely at a city or county event. If her expenses for reimbursement were higher than expected, it's because she does more than is expected.

She is engaged with our community, talks and listens to everyone. When she was elected as our commissioner, she gave up her position as the Cannon Beach CERT Coordinator in order to better serve the county. She is still a CERT and continues to be active. She is also active on the Cannon Beach Medical Reserve Corp as well as the Red Cross and CERT/MRC county HAM net. It is within those parameters

that I have had the good fortune of working with Lianne. Along with emergency preparedness, Lianne understands our needs for sustainable forestry, affordable housing, schools, jobs and the business community. She does all this voluntarily.

For those reasons I'm concerned that Mr. Lee doesn't recognize the value Lianne brings to Clatsop County. What the District 5 voters recognize in Lianne is her dedication, her background, education, her

sincerity and her passion. I commend all who volunteer for their city or county.

I have never known Lianne to be anything but professional, gracious and kind. That she is willing to give so much of herself to our county and our communities, makes her invaluable. District 5 is fortunate to have Commissioner Lianne Thompson. When she is up for reelection I will vote for her again.

Paula Vetter
Cannon Beach

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