

Look!

at the Arts

Winter 2010
Vol. XL Number 1

Happy Valentine's Day

Love, the Los Alamos Arts Council

By Kirsten Laskey

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Along with the aroma of coffee and homemade desserts, sweet melodies will soon weave through the air at Fuller Lodge at the upcoming Valentine's Coffeehouse.

Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 12 for this sweet event, the second Coffeehouse concert to be sponsored by the Los Alamos Arts Council.

While dining on a selection of desserts, many of which will be made by members of the LAAC board, and sipping O'Houri's coffee, music lovers will hear a romantic concert of music by Frederick Chopin, J.S. Bach, Edvard Grieg, Ole Bull and Antonin Dvorak performed by violinist Kay Newnam, cellist Sally Gunther and pianist Karen Follingstad.

It's a program Newnam said she is eager to share with the audience.

"I'm tremendously excited about our concert, she said. "The music has been a joy to prepare and will be a great joy to share."

She explained how the music is selected.

"Program variety has always been a hallmark of The Coffeehouse concerts," Newnam said. While it is a challenge to put together a very good program, there are some specific elements we consider. The historic periods of the music, the mode (major or minor) and keys of the pieces, the general emotional effect of the music and the instruments required for performance – all of these factor into our choices. We even consider the season when we're choosing music. For us, a summertime program will be different from one planned for Valentine's Day."



Since the Los Alamos audience is so musically well informed, she said, “there is really no genre of music that is out of bounds for us.”

The centerpiece of this program will be the “Dumky’s Trio” by Antonin Dvorak.

“It’s a fiery work that alternates between yearning melancholy and wild gaiety,” Newnam said. “Because the Dumky is such a big work— a bit like a symphony, but for three players – we decided to complete the program with the music of Bach for solo violin, Grieg and Ole Bull for cello and piano, and Chopin for solo piano.”

She added, “Hearing Chopin’s solo piano music in the intimate setting of The Coffeehouse will be a dream come true for me.”

The idea for the Coffeehouse concerts was born in 1978 and a group of professional musicians from northern New Mexico was assembled. Participating were pianist Rosalie Heller, violinists/violists Kay Newnam and Patty (O’Rourke) Broxton, clarinetist Robert Wingert, oboist Tom O’Connor, flutist Carol Redman and cellist Vick Firlie.

Serving coffees and teas from The Winery in Santa Fe, as well pies and tortes from the Palace Bakery, The Coffeehouse presented its premiere concert on April 17, 1979.

During the ensuing years, a long series of concerts, a total of 138, were presented before ending in 2008. However, after many requests from the public, the concerts were restarted on Aug. 21, 2009, as part of the county’s 60th-anniversary celebration.

Tickets for the Feb. 12 Valentine’s Coffeehouse concert are \$25 and are available at CB Fox. Ticket price includes a dessert and a beverage. Student discounts are available.

EVENT AT A GLANCE:

Valentine Coffeehouse at Fuller Lodge

Kay Newnam - violin

Sally Gunther - cello

Karen Follingstad - piano

Doors open at 7:30 p.m. for delicious desserts and coffee, music at 8:15

Tickets are \$25 –includes dessert and beverage

Tickets available at CB Fox until sold out.

Other events and programs

Spring Arts and Crafts Fair

The annual Spring Arts and Crafts Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 1 on the lawn of Fuller Lodge. The fair will highlight many new and returning artists, and because this is one of the first fairs of the year, it also promises to have the best selection of items. This fair is the perfect place to shop for that special Mother’s Day gift. Volunteers are always needed to help make the fair a success. If you would like to volunteer, please call 663-0477.

Guitars and Gateaux

Come join the Los Alamos Arts Council for an evening of dessert and guitar music. The next program will be Thursday, Jan. 28, at Fuller Lodge, featuring the Albuquerque Honor Quartet. On Feb. 25, Dr. Lynn McGraff will perform Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco’s “Platero y Yo.” For all concerts, unless otherwise noted, desserts are served at 7 p.m. and music begins at 7:30 p.m.

Brown Bag Performance Series

The winter/spring line-up for the popular free, noon-time concerts is as follows:

Feb. 3 Music with Friends

Donna Smith - piano

Alice Mutschlecner - violin

Marke Talley - violin, viola
Heather Vincent - cello
David Watkins - cello
and
The Black Mesa Brass Quintet with Percussion

March 3 Amrahn Trio
John Hargreaves - French horn
Cindy Little - piano
Louise Mendius - soprano

April 7 A group of Los Alamos and Santa Fe musicians offer a concert featuring piano, horn, clarinet, oboe and bassoon.

May 5 Ron Grinage - pianist from Santa Fe

June 2 Ruth Wilson Francisco - soprano from Colorado

New and renewing members

The Los Alamos Arts council uses a rolling membership program. Your anniversary date should appear on the mailing label of this newsletter. Your prompt renewal is very appreciated to help this non-profit organization continue to bring you excellent programs at a very reasonable or no cost.

Below are the names for new and renewing members since the fall newsletter:

New and renewing members:

M. Bergen & Helene Suydam
Becky & Tommy Cordova
Charlene Cox-Clifton
Will & Johanna DeMay
Michael McKay
Linda & Gottfried Schappert
Ted Vives
Jacqueline Walters
Bradford & Rozelle Wright

Art Angels:

John Faucett



Paul & Alice Mutschlecner

For more information about any of the Arts Council's programs, call Marlane Hamilton, executive director, at 663-0477.

Look at the Arts

January, February, March 2010

January

- Jan. 28** LA Arts Council, Guitars & Gateaux, Albuquerque Honor Quartet, Fuller Lodge, 7 p.m.
Jan. 28 Mesa Public Library Authors Speak Series, Karen Kendall, Upstairs Rotunda, 7 p.m.
Jan. 29 LA Little Theater, Twelve Angry Men, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 30 LA Little Theater, Twelve Angry Men, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 31 Topper Review Variety Show, Duane Smith Auditorium, 2 p.m.

February

- Feb. 1** Annual Los Alamos Photography Show - on exhibit through Feb. 26.
Feb. 3 LA Arts Council Brown Bag Performance Series, Donna Smith, Jan MacDonald, Alice Mutschlecner, Fuller Lodge, 12:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 Mesa Public Library Free Film Series, *Big Night*, 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 Topper Review Variety Show, Duane Smith Auditorium, 2 p.m.
Feb. 5 Topper Review Variety Show, Duane Smith Auditorium, 2 p.m.
Feb. 6 Topper Review Variety Show, Duane Smith Auditorium, 2 p.m.
Feb. 9 LA Historical Society Lecture Series, Fred Ribe, LDS Church, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 12 LA Arts Council sponsors the Valentine Coffeehouse, Fuller Lodge, 7:30 p.m. Music at 8:15 p.m.
Feb. 19 Art Center at Fuller Lodge, Opening Reception for "Let's Celebrate Spring," 5 to 7 p.m.
Feb. 19 New Mexico Dance Theater, "The Sleeping Beauty," Duane Smith Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 20 New Mexico Dance Theater, "The Sleeping Beauty," Duane Smith Auditorium, 2 p.m.
Feb. 20 LA Community Winds Concert, "Firebird Suite," WR Baptist Church, 7 p.m.
Feb. 21 New Mexico Dance Theater, "The Sleeping Beauty," Duane Smith Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 25 LA Arts Council, Guitars & Gateaux, D. Lynn McGraff, Fuller Lodge, 7 p.m.
Feb. 25 Mesa Public Library Authors Speak Series, Michael Hamilton Morgan, 7 p.m.

March

- Mar. 3** LA Arts Council's Brown Bag Performance Series, Amrahn Trio, Fuller Lodge, 12:30 p.m.
Mar. 4 Mesa Public Library Free Film Series, *Diner*, 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 7 Los Alamos Concert Association, "Ensemble Caprice," Duane Smith Auditorium, 4 p.m.
Mar. 9 LA Historical Society Lecture Series, Vern Glover, Fuller Lodge, 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 13 Empty Bowls Fundraiser, Betty Ehart Senior Center, 11 a.m.
Mar. 25 LA Arts Council, Guitars & Gateaux, Fuller Lodge, 7 p.m.
Mar. 25 Mesa Public Library Authors Speak Series, Barbara Owens Alpert, 7 p.m.
Mar. 26 Art Center at Fuller Lodge Opening Reception, "Interiors," 5 to 7 p.m.

Look at the Arts is published by the Los Alamos Arts Council, a non-profit organization that promotes engagement in the arts. Editorial contribution and comments are welcome. You can reach us by:

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The Community Events Calendar is at <http://www.visit.losalamos.com/events/>

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Additional Gift: \$ _____

I would like to be an Arts Council volunteer, especially in the following area(s):

Please mail form and check to The Los Alamos Arts Council P.O. Box 284 Los Alamos, NM 87544

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